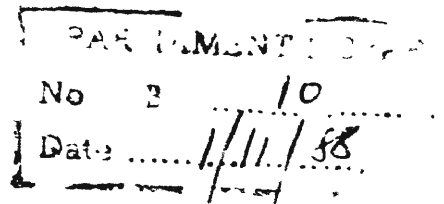


LOK SABHA DEBATES **(English Version)**

Tenth Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XXXIX contains Nos. 41 to 53)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

1

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, May 10, 1988/Vaisakha
20, 1910 (*Saka*)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Computerised Telephone

*1021. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a computerised telephone that helps the blind has been developed and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether such telephone will be given priority in place of car telephone project; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

2

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the answer of the Minister is very unhelpful. Now this is a device which helps the blind people to operate. There are a number of blind people in our country. I think, their number is estimated to be around ten million in our country. If this device is developed by India, it can provide work for a number of blind people.

So, I would like to know whether there are any foreign countries which have developed this device and are using it. Or, is there any other method whereby the blind people can operate ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, now in the introduction of push-button telephone system the system is that the central number, that is, five, will have a raised dot on it so that even a blind person can identify the numbers. It will be easier just as you know, in the typewriter, a blind person with Braille type of thing can operate. Similarly, in the push-button, it will be easier for a blind person to identify the numbers and dial.

In addition to this, for re-dialling also, he doesn't have to do again and again. There is last button. If he gets an engaged tone, he will disengage and push that last button. Then, it goes on re-dialling till he gets an answer. These innovations are already introduced in the push-button system. Blind persons would be able to operate it without any difficulty.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Is there any practical difficulty for you in introducing the computerised telephone system in our country ? If it is working in some other countries, what is the difficulty for the Government ?

You are trying to spend a lot of amount for introducing the car telephones. Instead

of car telephones, why don't you go in for introducing the computerised telephone system so that it may help the blind people to operate it? Why don't you make some efforts?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : As I said, we are making this effort-computerised telephones not only for the blind but for others also. There are now techniques which are coming, where memory is put into the telephone. Whatever numbers you want to dial, the telephone itself will go on dialling. So, it is not only for the blind. We are not aware here whether there are any telephones, computerised telephones, exclusively meant for the blind anywhere but as I explained, our own push button system and other telephones that we are evolving would be useful for the blind as well. I am telling you that at the present stage, we have introduced push button system which has that raised dot which will be helpful for the blind.

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD : I think the intention of the questioner is to find out the possibility of employment for the blind people. Now, there are blind people who are working on the switch boards. May I know whether it would be possible for them to have adapted telephones being produced in our country which can be easily operated by the blind people?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I think this push button system and the redialling system will help the blind also to operate easily, even from employment point of view.

**Increase in duration of AIR and
TV Programmes**

+

*1022. **SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA :**
SHRI YASHWANTRAO
GADAKH PATIL :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to increase the duration of the A.I.R. and T.V. programmes and make them practically round the clock programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the additional expenditure involved in implementation of the scheme has been considered?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) to (c). Considering the heavy expenditure involved in obtaining of technical equipment and setting up of transmitters and recruitment of additional staff, it is not possible immediately to have AIR and TV programmes round-the clock. However, enhancement of AIR broadcast and Doordarshan telecast time progressively is under the active consideration of Government.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is correct that the T.V. programmes cannot be telecast round the clock due to lack of resources. But, Sir, there are various countries in the world where this is being done. In our country also, in the near future the production, centres are going to be increased from the present 13 to 48. Keeping this in mind, will the Hon. Minister assure the House that as soon as the number of these centres is increased to 48, he will not only provide T.V. signal facilities in farflung areas but also increase the duration of telecast time? If 24 hours transmission is not possible, he should try to increase the transmission time to the extent possible.

MR SPEAKER : You put the question.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Because there is a wide gap between the breakfast T.V. and evening transmission.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : I can understand the anxiety of the Hon. Member and his question talks of two things. The first

is that he says that we should be able to give TV signals to farflung areas and the second is to increase the telecast time. So far as giving TV signals to farflung areas is concerned, the problem of hardware expansion is under our very active consideration. We are trying to expedite the implementation of the scheme sanctioned under the Seventh Plan Scheme. As I said the other day, we are actively exploring the possibility of mobilising the resources from our Ministry for getting equipments so that we could have more TV transmitters of various categories, particularly, to cover the farflung areas, distant areas, border areas and tribal areas. I can assure the Hon. Member that within a year or two, the TV service which is existing today will be far more increased in hardware area and many of the areas will be covered. It requires trained personnel; it requires TV transmitters; it requires so many things. I can assure the Hon. Member that we are looking into that with seriousness which it deserves. He is right in saying that in certain countries, there is round the clock telecast. But we cannot compare with those countries, some of which are very small countries and they began long ago. As far as the TV expansion in this country is concerned, while I would readily concede that the TV requirements of this country, with its dimensions, size, various problems, development, culture, history, are not adequate, yet, TV expansion in this country has been the fastest in the world; I am not saying it was in a short time, but we had the expansion and we are going for further expansion.

As far as the increase in the telecast time is concerned, I cannot give an assurance that within this specific time we shall be able to go in for longer duration telecast, but we are working gradually and we will have to phase it out. We want to increase the telecast time in the case of national and regional channels. We are actively considering it. Even today I had a meeting and we will announce after some time the gradual increase in the telecast time.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with the Hon. Minister

that the speed with which T.V. has expanded in our country for the last 4-5 years is miraculous and it is a very good thing. The policy of the Government is that this programme will be given priority in the tribal areas and in the hilly areas. But in spite of Government's directions, no proper action is being taken on this. When Hon. Shri Sathe was the Broadcasting Minister, he had stated in his written reply that Chaupan Renukut area fulfilled the norms set by Government of India and this facility would soon be extended there. But this facility has not been provided there so far. I want to know whether the imbalance created in the expansion of T.V. will be removed and further, whether in some backward areas which lack other facilities, the facility of T.V. centre will be provided? Will the hilly areas and the tribal areas be given a priority as per the policy of the Government?

[*English*]

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : Firstly, with all respect, I would tell the Hon. Member that the percentage of population covered in the case of UP is more than the national average. The reason is that when last time we went in for expansion, I gave you an assurance that we were giving the best possible attention to the remaining areas not only of UP, but all parts of the country. But if you ask me about particular areas, I can give you the details about station; we are going to have. This is a continuous process. But I would say that the criteria that we had kept at one time with regard to special expansion was that towns with a population of a lakh and above would be covered. Now we are covering other areas. I have already said that we are giving attention to tribal areas, far-flung areas and distant areas. It is not that these areas are not being attended. Lots of tribal areas, hilly areas and distant areas are covered. There is no discrimination. If there is any discrimination, I assure you that it is going to be in their favour.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFUOR : Is there any scheme for introduction of TV for the blind men, as my friend just now said that there is a scheme in telecommunication for the blinds? Have you got any scheme for the blind men?

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : I also read it in the newspapers. I think, I have to learn certain things from my Hon. friend, technology and others. If I could have it, I would not mind.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : He has become too foresighted.

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHURY : At a number of places, we have got the second channel, but we do not know what is telecast on the second channel. There is a long standing demand that the second channel of TV be handed over to the State Government so that proper coverage is given to the local culture and thereby we strengthen the unity of the country. Are you going to accept it?

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : He is an Hon. Member and very young. I would say with great affection for him that we have answered it earlier also that we do not consider it proper... (Interruptions).

I can get into the details. At the moment I can give him an assurance that for the purpose for which he is talking, i.e. giving local programmes on local culture, with local thrust and all that, we are going to improve the Second Channel. Certainly in the Committees, etc. the local view point shall be taken while improving the Second Channel.

LPG Connections in Gujarat

*1023. **SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of LPG connections allotted in Gujarat as on 31 December, 1987 and the district-wise waiting list for LPG connections in the State as on above date; and

(b) the year-wise allotment of LPG connections during the last three years in Gujarat and when the existing waiting list for LPG connections is likely to be wiped out fully?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT):

(a) As on December 31, 1987, there were about 13.63 lakh LPG consumers in the State of Gujarat. Districtwise waiting list is given in the Statement below.

(b) The total number of LPG connections released in Gujarat during the years 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 were 1.78 lakhs, 1.95 lakhs and 1.39 lakhs respectively. New LPG connections will continue to be released by the oil industry all over the country, including in Gujarat, in a phased manner under its annual programme for enrolment of customers, subject to augmentation in availability of LPG and bottling capacity.

Statement		No. of persons on waiting list for LPG connections (as on 31.12.87)
Name of the District		
1. Ahmedabad	—	1,13,648
2. Baroda	—	47,846
3. Bharuch	—	12,012
4. Gandhinagar	—	10,419
5. Mehsana	—	33,197
6. Panchmahal	—	12,998
7. Kheda	—	19,821
8. Surat	—	80,245
9. Valsad	—	12,676
10. Rojkot	—	37,794
11. Kutch	—	3,118
12. Amreli	—	3,068
13. Bhavnagar	—	24,956
14. Jamnagar	—	3,716
15. Surendranagar	—	1,149
16. Junagadh	—	16,208
	—	
17. Sabarkantha	—	3,400
18. Banaskantha	—	5,804
Total :		4,60,374

SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD : Sir, in Gujarat the housewife is using gas for cooking purposes and as you can see from the answer given, there is a long waiting list. I would like to know whether the Government would give preference to this project so that the housewife can be helped in this connection.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Sir, the backlog in March, 1988 was 1.4 per cent in Gujarat while all over the country it was 2.2 per cent which is much higher. We are taking steps, we are increasing the bottling capacity in Gujarat, so that in new marketing plan we can include some new more areas and enrol more customers.

SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD : Sir, the price factor is also a major issue. With the rising prices of all commodities and then the increased price of LPG gas the housewife, the house holder finds it difficult to make through his meal. I would like to know if the Government is taking steps to keep the prices low so that the housewife does not find it difficult.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : We have not increased the price of LPG. We are subsidising to the extent possible and we do not have any proposal to increase the price.

DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in our country we have got huge cylinder manufacturing capacity and we make lakhs of cylinders in our country. A number of cylinder making units in our country are lying idle and they are waiting for orders. Similarly, we got plenty of LPG available in our country. There is only one problem and that is with regard to the Bottling Plants in our country. So, I would like to ask from the Hon. Minister the number of bottling plants working in our country, whether they able to meet the demand and, if not, the immediate proposal and plans from the Government side to meet the demand.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Sir, the total availability of LPG in 1987-88 was 1590000 metric tonnes and we had to import 155000 metric tonnes. That makes a total of 1745000 metric tonnes. But at

present our attempt is to supply LPG cylinders to the towns having a population of 20,000 and above. Now, the number of existing bottling plants in the country is about 55 and 49 more are being commissioned under phase III to be completed by the end of 1989. We are also making attempts to increase the availability of LPG. It is now being extracted at Hajira; we propose to extract it at Bijapur and later on at Auraiya.

DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : What about the bottling plants ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : The bottling plants are coming up in the third phase. We are already working on the fourth phase also. It will go according to the availability.

[*Translation*]

**Telex facility in District Headquarters
in Uttar Pradesh**

*1025. **SHRI HARISH RAWAT :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the district headquarters in Uttar Pradesh where telex facility is proposed to be provided during 1988-89;

(b) whether Almora and Pithoragarh districts of the said State will also be linked with this service during the current year;

(c) if so, by what time; and

(d) if not, the time by which this facility is proposed to be provided at these places ?

[*English*]

**THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND
MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI VASANT SATHE) :** (a) to (d). A statement is given below.

Statement

- (a) Mirzapur and Mathura (Rampur already provided).
- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) At present there is no firm demand at Almora and Pithoragarh. Telex facilities at these places will be planned as and when minimum demand of four subscribers comes up.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Uttar Pradesh is a very backward in the field of tele communication. Uttar Pradesh has the least number of district headquarters which are connected with the telex service. How many district headquarters are you going to connect with the telex service this year ? In this context, will you bear it in mind that in Uttar Pradesh the number of district headquarters possessing telex service is the least.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : It is incorrect that in Uttar Pradesh the number of district headquarters connected with telex service is minimum. Telex facility has been provided in 18 districts of Uttar Pradesh which include districts of Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Barreilly, Dehradun, Faizabad, Ghaziabad, Gorakhpur, Jhansi, Kanpur, Lucknow, Moradabad, Meerut, Muzaffarnagar, Raibareilly, Saharanpur, Sitapur and Varanasi. Notional telex has been provided in Shahjahanpur, Haridwar and Rampur. We provide the facility of notional telex provided a demand of at least 4 telex connections is made. In districts where you want this facility, you manage the demand of at least four telex connections and we will provide them this telex facility.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : I thank the Hon. Minister for his kind gesture and expect the same from him in future too. Will the Hon. Minister provide telex facilities in hilly areas by slightly relaxing the norm from four to two as has been done

with regard to other facilities provided there ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : It has been reduced from forty to four.

MR. SPEAKER : Lest it should not be reduced less than one.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : This has been done for all.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : It will be extremely difficult to accept your request for two.

[English]

Manufactures of Tractors

*1028. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTA-
NAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY
be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under consideration of Government to manufacture in collaboration with certain firms, a cheaper type of tractor which will be within the reach of common farmer; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVE-
LOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF
INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTAIAIK : Sir, this is no answer at all, You know very well that now the agriculturists are seeking tractors with specialised functions and especially having better fuel efficient engines. Apart from the 15 per cent excise duty, because of the bloating cost of steel and tyres, the price of a tractor has increased by 20 per cent. Keeping all these factors in view, I would like to know whether the Government thinks it necessary to update the technology to meet the new requirements.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : As far as the tractor industry in India is concerned, our technology is in no way inferior to that of any of the advanced countries. Our manufacturers have been upgrading their technology. Since 1984, Government have allowed import of technology both for new models as well as for the upgradation of engines of the major manufacturers like the Escorts, Mahindra and Mahindra and HMT.

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK : May I know from the Hon Minister the progress made about the proposal for the manufacture of combined agricultural tractors and harvestors? A high-level discussion was there for a joint collaboration with the USSR. What is the progress in that regard?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : There is no such proposal pending, as far as the Government is concerned. But all the manufacturers of tractors are permitted to manufacture any range of tractors within their licenced capacity.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Gradually, now, due to several reasons in the agricultural sector, even in the remote villages, the farmers are going in for the tractors. In fact, many a time, they are compelled because of certain economic conditions which are quite different from the situation which was prevalent some decades back. But we find the scenario is usually of big tractors, such as, 55 H.P., 60 H.P., 45 H.P., and so on.

I would like to know from the Hon. Minister as many of the farmers are small and marginal farmers, lower-middle class farmers—whether the Government will take more effective steps for the production of tractors of smaller Horse Power capacity, such as 25 H.P. or 20 H.P., or something like that, and that the rates of these tractors should be within the reach of the lower-middle class farmers by giving some relief on the tax structure which are imposed on these tractors and also on the implements, like row cultivation, inter-cultivation and so on? Many a time, for cotton and some other crops which are planted in rows, the inter-cultivation can be done by the imple-

ments. Many of these implements are now being put to use in Japan and Phillipine. Like that, where there are some holdings, will the Government produce on a larger scale and make available to the lower-middle class farmers of this country, similar types of equipments?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Most of the leading manufacturers are manufacturing small tractors of 25 H.P., that is 1800 cc. and below. It is about 32 per cent of the total production in the country.

With a view to bring the tractors within the reach of the common farmers, tractors of 1800 cc and below are fully exempted from the levy of Excise Duties.

Small tractors of below 1800 cc engine capacity are commanding about 32 per cent of the market today. I hope the Hon. Member may be...

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Still the rates are high. They should be further brought down. You give some concessions.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : Complete Excise Duty upto 1800 cc was exempted.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : The Minister had received a paper from the Secretary that below 1800 cc, they are exempting fully the Excise and Customs Duties. I am happy about that. But it is not being implemented as yet. So basing on the main question of my Hon. friend Shri Pattnaik which he has asked—the new design parameters of fuel efficient machines which are now prevalent in Japan and Phillipines and its cost will be much lower—I would like to know whether the Minister is going to agree to the proposal of any public sector or private sector to accept the double entry of Excise and Customs Duties and the other taxes from the ancillary parts.

They are charging the Excise and Customs Duties and other taxes and at the same time, after the crops are on the rows, they are

charging the same Excise and Customs Duties and other taxes, such as Sales Tax, which are there in different States. I would like to know, whether you are going to take cognizance of it,

There is a feeling in the minds of the farmers that the Department of Industry is giving a stepmotherly treatment to the causes of the farmers. For convincing the farmers, whether the Minister will take a bold step by taking cognizance of Mr. Rao's suggestion of exempting duties on less than 25 H.P. tractors in all fairness and the rate should be within the reach of the farmers *vis-a-vis* foreign technology.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : The answer to this question is this. In the last year's budget, the exemption was given upto 1800 cc. engine tractors That means upto 25 HP. That benefit is going to them. *(Interruptions)*

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : What was the cost last year; and what is it now? You can give this information, so that the House may know. We are laymen.

MR. SPEAKER : He is talking about the excise duty, and not about the price.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : About the demand in our country, according to the 7th Plan projections, it is 95,000 tractors. Our licensed capacity is 1,95,000. Our installed capacity is 1,15,000 for tractors. *(Interruptions)*

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : I have not asked for that I have asked about the rates and prices.

MR. SPEAKER : He was asking about the excise duty.

(Interruptions)

Arbitrary high prices of drugs fixed by Drug Companies

*1029. **PROF. K.V. THOMAS :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government issued Drugs (Prices control) Order in 1979 and several companies got stay orders;

(b) if so, the number of cases pending final decision from the courts;

(c) whether these companies still continue to charge arbitrarily fixed high prices for drugs; and

(d) whether these companies are exempt from payment of income tax on profits earned due to differences in Government price and company price ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) to (d). A statement is given below :

Statement

(a) Some companies had obtained stay orders from various courts against prices fixed for some of their drugs under DPCO, 1979.

(b) and (c). There Writ petitions filed by M/s. Warner Hindustan, M/s. Parke Davis and M/s. Pfizer are still pending decision from the Bombay High Court. In other three cases concerning M/s Sandoz (India) Ltd., M/s Abbott Labs. and M/s Pfizer Ltd., appeals filed by the Government against the judgement of Bombay High Court dated 6.4. 1987 are still pending final decision. The concerned companies are charging their own prices for the formulations involved due to stay granted by the Bombay High Court,

(d) The Ministry is not aware of any such exemption being allowed by the Income Tax Authorities.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS : The multinational and big companies who manufacture drugs in this country are exploiting the poor people. The price of drugs is unilaterally fixed by these companies at a very exorbitant rate. Whenever Government tries to control these companies, they get shelter either in the High Courts or in the Supreme Court. They are worse than the terrorists. If the terrorists are killing people, these

big companies are exploiting millions of our poor people who find it very difficult to get two square meals a day. So, my question to the Minister is; what strong steps will be taken by Government to see that these companies are under the full control of Government, and that the prices are fixed, not by these big multi-national companies, but by Government which has given them licence for production ?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : Against the Government orders, 18 multi-national companies really got stays orders from various courts in the country; and 13 stay orders were vacated by the Supreme Court. In respect of five companies, six cases are pending in the Bombay High Court. Thirteen companies actually have to repay the prices they have collected during the stay period; they have to refund to the Government. They must deposit with the Government, according to the Supreme Court. An amount of Rs. 13-crores-odd is due from all these 13 companies. The amount recovered till now is nearly Rs. 4 crores; I think we will recover the remaining amount also. Six cases are still pending in the Bombay High Court.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS : I am very sorry to state that the Government is at the mercy of these multi-national companies. At any stage, Government is unable to control these companies. Government have mentioned in the statement that the concerned companies are charging their own prices on the formulations involved. So, Government should take special interest to see that the cases which are pending in the High Courts or the Supreme Court are settled immediately; and Government should give special instructions. So, my question to the Government is whether immediate steps will be taken, and instructions given to our own lawyers in the Supreme Court and the High Courts. Similarly, will Government take up any other legislation, whatever legislation is needed, so that these companies are controlled by Government? We should not be at the mercy of these companies.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : According to the latest DPCO, the Government has a right to fix any price for the drugs. We can bring it to the category two also. What to

do? These companies approached the High Court and the Hon. retired Chief Justice Chennappa Reddy give a judgement in 13 cases. Now we are recovering the amount. The judgement was given in favour of six companies by the Bombay High Court. Now our appeal is pending before a larger Bench. What can we do in such cases ?

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in this regard I had made a special mention on 6th November, 1987 and the Hon Minister had given following reply on 2nd March, 1988.

[*English*]

"Early action is being taken to revise the price of medicines as per the provisions of DPCO, 1987"

[*Translation*]

Orders were issued in 1980-1981 for fixing the price with the companies. It is not known as to how the companies with the connivance of the Government could succeed in shelving the implementation of the directions with regard to prices by making the matter subjudice in the Supreme Court. In 1987, the Supreme Court somehow gave orders that recovery should be made and implementation too should be done within a period of 2 months and 14 days. The Government stated in this House that it would be done soon, but what is the cause of delay? What steps the Government is proposed to take for the recovery of overcharges which is being practised by the companies from its consumers? What punishment the Government is proposed to award to the officials responsible for this?

[*English*]

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : As I have mentioned, in the case of 13 companies, the stay order was vacated by the Supreme Court. All these companies have approximately to pay Rs. 13 and odd crores. We have already recovered nearly Rs. 4 crores. We have appointed special officers and other staff and they are checking their accounts and they will collect the amount as early as possible.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : The Hon. Minister has mentioned only those companies which got the stay orders from the High Court and the Supreme Court, but has left out the companies which are charging the maximum price from the general public. Recently 13 companies in Delhi, which include Gratus Pharma and Ranbaxy etc. have been chargesheeted for overcharging and for manufacturing sub-standard drugs. I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether any legal action has been taken against such companies which are found to be indulged in overcharging as also manufacturing sub-standard medicines? If so, would you kindly state the number of cases in which court verdicts were given in favour of the Government and the companies?

[*English*]

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : I have already mentioned that out of 18 companies, the stay order in the case of 13 companies was vacated. But we are collecting the amount. Six cases are pending in the Bombay High Court. A single judge Bench gave a judgement in favour of Six companies. Now an appeal is pending before the Bench.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : It is common knowledge that the most important reason for the high prices of drugs especially the life saving drugs is the use of brand name and the high pressure of salesmanship of the multinationals and they are also protected by a trade mark. Many western countries do not permit the use of a trade mark for drugs. If you insist that generic name should be used for these medicines and then they will not be given protection for a trade mark, automatically the prices of these drugs will come down. This is one of the most important recommendations of the Hathi Committee also. Bangladesh has followed their recommendations and adopted the Report of the Hathi Committee. They do not permit the use of brand name in their country and we are not implementing the important recommendation of the Hathi Committee. Would the government insist on the use of generic name for these medicines?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : I will send the information to the Hon. Member. The information is not readily available.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : What is this?

MR. SPEAKER : He will send the information.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : This is a long standing request of the people. The Hathi Committee has recommended this. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Your new drug policy contains this

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : I am requesting you. Kindly see the question and see the supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER : You will get it. I will get you the answer. Do not worry.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Digvijay Sinh.—Absent.

Dr. Venkatesh—Absent.

[*Translation*]

What has happened to him ever since, accompanied him in the delegation?

[*English*]

I shall have to take more care next time. Shri Bhattam Sriramamurty.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHURY : Was he also with you?

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Murlidhar Mane. What is all this happening?

Shri S. M. Guraddi—Absent.

SHRI S. B. SIDNAL : He is here.

Crude Oil price

+

*1034. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL :
SHRI S. M. GURADDI :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has suggested to Government that the price paid to it for oil production be increased in commercial interest;

(b) if so, the main points put forward by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission;

(c) whether Government have considered the proposal; and

(d) if so, to what extent Government are likely to increase the production price to be paid to the Oil and Natural Gas Commission ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :

(a) to (d). A Statement is given below.

Statement

(a) to (d). ONGC has asked for an upward revision in the price of crude oil produced by it for reasons like payment of higher sales tax on account of increase in crude price, increased interest payments on loans taken to meet free foreign exchange requirements, losses incurred due to foreign exchange rate fluctuations, lower rate of crude transportation rates, expenses incurred between 1-8-1980-81 and 3-9-1986 on account of Pour Point Depressant, increasing cost of work over operations, adoption of water injection methods, Pollution Control, oil exploration and storage of crude in tankers, etc.

The current price paid to the ONGC for the crude oil adequately covers their cost and other expenses leaving enough surpluses and the Government do not propose to revise the crude price at this stage.

SHRI S. B. SIDNAL : Of late, the cost of production of oil in this country has been going up. The ONGC has proposed that, to meet the increased cost of production, there may be an increase in the rates to meet the costs like increased rate on loans and other things. Is it a fact that the Government has proposed to increase the rate of the oil ? If so, to what extent ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : There is no proposal before the Government to raise the price of crude oil produced in the country, or of oil products.

SHRI S. B. SIDNAL : In the last part of the answer it is mentioned that the current price paid to the ONGC for the crude oil adequately covers their cost and other expenses. But it is learnt that it does not meet the cost of production and it has to be subsidised by at least a minimum of Rs. 100 or 120 crores. That is why the Chairman has proposed increase to meet the cost of production. That is why I am asking if it is a fact. If at all, how much is going to be the increase ? If a proposal to increase is there I want to know if it is going to affect the consumers' interests in the country.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : I have already submitted that we do not propose to increase the price of crude oil and to load the consumer with extra burden.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Do you want an increase ?

Rates of LPG cylinders

*1035. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the price of LPG cylinders is not uniform throughout the country;

(b) if so, the reasons for not supplying them at uniform price;

(c) whether the petroleum producing States like Maharashtra, Gujarat, Assam etc. are likely to give some concession in rates to the consumers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (d). A Statement is given below.

Statement

(a) and (b). The ex-storage point price of LPG at refinery locations is uniform throughout the country. However it is not possible to sell it at a uniform retail price as the retail selling prices vary from place to place due to differing freight element, sales tax and other local levies.

(c) and (d). Government are not aware of any such proposals.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, an agreement was made regarding the supply of gas through pipe line in Bombay with the help of Bombay Gas Company, Maharashtra Government and Petroleum Corporation. Besides, there is a network of old pipe line in Bombay. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister as to what progress has been made in that regard and what is your plan in this regard ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in fact this is not related to the main question but since the Hon. Member wants to know, therefore, I would like to tell him that the Maharashtra Government had made a demand of additional gas from us. We had agreed to give the same. Now the issue lies between the Maharashtra Government and the Bombay Gas Company.

SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Will the Hon'ble Minister state that whether there is any proposal to set up gas agencies in small towns by changing the old norms of giving gas agencies,

keeping in view the increase in the availability of gas.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : What the Hon'ble Member meant by the terms gas and L.P.G., there is a slight difference between them. I have already mentioned about L.P.G. in my reply to the earlier question. Keeping in view the present availability, we intend to cover the towns with a population of 20,000. But, besides, we are increasing the availability of L.P.G. As it increases, it will become possible to supply the L.P.G. in more towns. (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether he is considering to give some subsidy on each cylinder and whether supply of gas through pipe line is also under consideration ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : We have not increased the price of gas cylinder.

SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR : Please also tell us how much subsidy are you giving one cylinder ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Approximately more than one thousand rupees on one metric tonne.

SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR : Please also tell us about Gujarat ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : In Gujarat, we are giving in Baroda. We are also giving it in Surat and we will increase it as per the availability of more gas.

Target of reserve accretion of ONGC

[English]

*1036. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission is well on the way to achieve the Seventh Plan target of adding 970 million tonnes of oil reserve accretion;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantity of oil and gas added by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission during 1987-88 towards its target of reserve accretion;

(d) whether the larger accretion would enable crude production to be raised substantially; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT):
(a) to (e). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) and (b). ONGC have added geological reserves of about 820 million tonnes of oil and oil equivalent of gas during the first three years of the Seventh Plan as against a target of 970 million tonnes.

(c) The addition of geological reserves by ONGC during 1987 has been provisionally estimated as about 300 million tonnes of oil and 112 million tonnes of oil equivalent of gas.

(d) Accretion of recoverable reserves of crude oil would enable increases in the crude production.

(e) The exact details of crude production during the Eighth Plan period would be available only after the finalisation of the Eighth Five Year Plan.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like the Hon. Minister to be eloquent on this point. I would like to know whether ONGC (Oil and Natural Gas Commission) is constrained by lack of resources due to same price being paid to it from 1983 onwards as stated by ONGC Chairman Col. S.P. Wahi at Madras on May 7 ? If so, what step is proposed to be taken to help the ONGC ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Sir, ONGC does not require any help. They are quite competent. They have got their own capacity to raise internal resources. I do not think they require them. In fact, they support our activities.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Sir, I would like to know whether any exploration has been made in Gangetic basin in Bihar and if so, with what result ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Sir, the Hon. Member has asked about Gangetic basin. This comes under the third category of our basins, where no hydro carbons are present. We are yet to establish if they can be recovered on commercial basis. We have started drilling and we are surveying it also. But, we are concentrating in those areas where we have stabilised recoverable reserves. We can develop them easily.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Narayan Choubey

— — Absent

Shri Ram Dhan

— .. Absent

Shri Balwant Singh

Ramoowalia

— ... Absent

Shri Sarfaraz Ahmed

..... Absent

Shri K. Mohandas

..... Absent

Shri Nityananda Misra

..... Absent

MR. SPEAKER : Now, I will have second round.

Shri Syed Shahabuddin

Shri Subhash Yadav

Shri Prakash Chandra

Dr. B.L. Shailesh

Shri Digvijay Singh

Dr. V. Venkatesh

Shri Bhattam Sriramamurthy

Shri Muralidhar Mane

Shri Narayan Choubey

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :
Shri Narayan Choubey is courting arrest
against Industrial Disputes Bill. —
(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Who is courting arrest ?

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :
Shri Narayan Choubey. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Is it voluntary arrest ?

AN HON. MEMBER : Voluntary arrest.
(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : At this age, why should he resort to
courting ? ... — (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : We must do something
about it. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ram Dhan
Shri Balwant Singh
Ramoowalia
Shri Sarfaraz Ahmad
Shri K. Mohandas
Shri Nityananda Misra

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Models of passenger automobiles

*1024. **SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :**
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased
to state :

(a) the particulars of the existing models
of passenger automobiles being manufactur-
ed in the country with the number of units
produced, year-wise, of each model during
the last three years;

(b) the element of foreign collaboration,
technical or financial, in each case;

(c) whether any of these models have
been indigenously designed; and

(d) whether considering the economy of
scale, it is proposed to discourage further
proliferation of models ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
(**SHRI J. VENGAL RAO**) : (a) to (c). A
statement is given below.

(d) This will be considered as a part of
the new automobile policy.

Statement

The details of various models of passenger cars and their production during the last three years, are as under

Name of the Manufacturer	Model	Production		Element/Nature of Foreign Collaboration	
		1985-86	1986-87		1987-88
1. M/s. Premier Automobiles Ltd.	(I) Premier Padmini	29270	24670	29349	Indigenous
	(II) Premier 118-NE	119	2605	4208	Technical (For engine & Transmission)
2. M/s. Hindustan Motors Ltd.	(I) Ambassador	22291	21839	23637	Indigenous
	(II) Contessa with Ambassador Engine	1006	Discontinued	—	—
	(III) Contessa Classic	—	984	2917	Technical (For engine, Transmission & Axle)
3. M/s. Maruti Udyog Ltd.	Maruti 800	33262	50493	64555	Technical & Financial
4. M/s. Standard Motor Products of India	Standard-2000	185	1446	444	Technical (Body, Transmission and Axle)
	(I) Dolphin	399	18	Discontinued	Technical
5. M/s. Sipani Automobiles Ltd.	(II) Montana-2D	—	—	425	Technical
	(III) Montana-4D	—	—	—	—

Amount spent by ONGC on exploration of oil and gas in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan

***1026. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :
SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA :**

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated amount spent so far by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission on the exploration work for oil and gas in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan.

(b) the number of wells in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan where oil and gas has been struck; and

(c) the amount likely to be spent by the O.N.G.C. during 1988-89 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :

(a) The amount spent by ONGC on exploratory drilling in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan till 31.3.1987 is about Rs. 160 crores and about Rs. 43 crores respectively.

(b) In Andhra Pradesh, a total of 12 wells have been proved to be oil/gas bearing. In Rajasthan, gas has been struck in 8 wells.

(c) The estimated amount to be spent by ONGC in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan during 1988-89 is about Rs. 79 crores and about Rs. 32 crores respectively.

Colgate Palmolive (India) Ltd.

***1027. DR B.L. SHAILESH :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Director-General of Investigation has found Colgate Palmolive (India) Ltd. indulging in the restrictive trade practice of tie-up, attracting the provisions of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken or being taken against the Company ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) ; (a) and (b). As per the relevant provisions of the MRTP Act, 1969, the MRTP Commission has, on the basis of the Preliminary Investigation, Report of the Director-General of Investigation & Registration, instituted an enquiry against M/s Colgate Palmolive (India) Limited, Bombay, for indulging in a restrictive trade practice of tie-up sale of other articles with Colgate Dental Powder and Dental Cream, with a view to promoting the sale of slow moving items.

Electricity from tidal waves in Gulf of Kutch

***1030. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total investment made in the project to generate electricity from tidal waves in the Gulf of Kutch;

(b) what is the level of completion and how much more investment needs to be made; and

(c) when this project will be completed and how much electricity will be generated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c). Government have sanctioned an amount of Rs. 531.22 lakhs for investigations and studies for the preparation of a techno-economic feasibility report for the tidal power project in the Gulf of Kutch. An amount of about Rs. 392 lakhs had been spent till the end of March, 1988.

The draft report on the techno-economic feasibility study has been completed by the Central Electricity Authority. The CEA have estimated that the total expenditure on the techno-economic feasibility study will not

exceed the sanctioned amount of Rs. 531.22 lakhs.

The proposed project can be implemented after an investment decision and detailing of the design and construction features. The construction period is expected to be about seven years. The project envisages installation of about 900 MW capacity at an estimated cost of about Rs 1310 crores. The annual generation of electricity is expected to be about 1690 million units.

Modern telephone systems for remote towns

*1031. DR V VENKATESH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether modern telephone systems for remote towns are going to be introduced in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes Sir, but the allotment of electronic exchanges is subject to existence of adequate demand and availability of equipment.

(b) It is proposed to introduce during 1988-89;

1. 500 units of 64 line Mini ILT,
2. 350 units of 128 port C-DOT RAX,
3. 20 units of 512-port ILTs.
4. 30 units of ESAX.

FICCI seminar on recession

*1032. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA-MAURTY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Federation of Indian Chambers of

Commerce and Industry recently held a Seminar on the theme of recession and complained that for the last two years business in Textiles and Engineering has been facing recession;

(b) whether it has also been estimated that about 60 per cent of the companies would incur losses next year because of unsatisfactory position on power front and also due to drought; and

(c) the reaction of Government on the same ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) to (c). Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry held a workshop in November, 1987 on "Are we Heading for Recession". The paper has not given any estimate that 60 per cent of the companies would incur losses next year due to unsatisfactory position on power front and also due to drought.

Regarding the Textiles and Engineering Sector, the index of industrial production as compiled by CSO showed a growth of 15.9 per cent in Engineering sector and 13.7 per cent in Textile Sector during April-December 1987 as compared to 7.9 per cent and (—) 4.3 per cent respectively in the corresponding period of last year.

Cost of supply vessels

*1033. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the cost of various supply vessels of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission at the time of purchase, which are said to be tied up in various harbours;

(b) the total number of such vessels for supply and their role now;

(c) the role suggested for them in view of the total failure of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission to operate them; and

(d) the annual loss in terms of interest and depreciation from this venture of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a), (b) and (d). The 32 offshore supply vessels purchased by the ONGC, at prices ranging from Rs. 1.57 crores to Rs. 6.89 crores, during the period 1976-87, are providing active services to its offshore installations/drilling rigs. ONGC has not suffered any loss due to the acquisition of these vessels.

(c) Does not arise.

Establishment of telecommunication district at Kharagpur

*1037. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) when did Government establish telecommunication district, Kharagpur in West Bengal;

(b) whether this telecommunication district functions not from Kharagpur but from Calcutta; if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether Government have acquired a plot of land from the Railways at Kharagpur to establish the telecommunication district office; if so, when; and

(d) when the construction work of this office will start and the target date of starting office from Kharagpur ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Telecom. District for Kharagpur Secondary Switching Area (SSA) was established with effect from 1.4.1987.

(b) Yes, Sir. The office of Telecom. District Engineer is functioning with headquarters at Calcutta for the present due to some administrative reasons.

(c) Yes, Sir. The department acquired land from Railways in 1985.

(d) The building is likely to come up by 1991-92. The office of Telecom District Engineer can start functioning with headquarters at Kharagpur sometime in 1992. However, in the meantime efforts are being made to find out a suitable accommodation on rent at Kharagpur to shift the office.

[Translation]

Delay in supply of LPG Cylinders

*1038. SHRI RAM DHAN :
SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the guidelines issued to LPG dealers in metropolitan cities in regard to refilling of gas cylinders for domestic use are also applicable to the LPG dealers in other small cities and towns of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons for which consumers in small cities and towns have to wait for refills for fortnights and months together;

(c) whether Government propose to issue clear instructions to all the LPG dealers to supply refills to consumers within a specified period;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) Yes, Sir;

(b) A backlog in supply of LPG refills had temporarily developed during recent few months in several parts of the country, on account of shortfall in the bulk availability of LPG, apart from movement, industrial relations and other operational constraints. Efforts are being made to maximise indigenous LPG production and

also augment supplies through imports to the extent feasible. The situation is being closely monitored by the oil industry with a view to ensuring regular LPG supplies to the consumers.

(c) and (d) Under normal circumstances LPG distributors are under instructions to deliver LPG refills within 24 hours of booking.

(e) Does not arise in view of (c) and (d) above.

Ongoing projects of Damodar Valley Corporation

*1039. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the projects out of various on going projects of Damodar Valley Corporation which have been delayed or are being delayed due to suspension of work by the contractors;

(b) the total loss likely to be suffered by the Corporation due to this delay; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Out of four power generation projects under execution by the Damodar Valley Corporation the work on two units of the Bokaro 'B' Stage-II Project has been delayed due to the suspension of work by M/s. ACC Babcock Ltd.

(b) and (c). The loss likely to be suffered by the Corporation can be assessed when the units have been completed. Measures are being taken to revive M/s ABL.

[English]

Registration of Producers and Directors with Doordarshan for T.V. serials

*1040. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the names of members of the Selection Board for scrutinising the applications of producers and directors to be registered with Doordarshan for producing serials and other programmes;

(b) whether there is any member from the Southern region on this Selection Board; and

(c) the number of producers and directors from the South who have applied for registration with Doordarshan ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : The information is given below ad seriatim :

(a) The members of the Selection Board are :

Non-official members

1. Shri B.K. Karanjia, Editor, "Screen".
2. Shri Hrishikesh Mukherjee, Eminent Film Director.
3. Shri Dilip Sircar, Ex-President, Eastern India Motion Pictures Association.
4. Shri L.V. Prasad, President, Motion Pictures Association of South India (Shri Prasad later opted out on the ground of ill health).
5. Shri M. Shamim, Special Correspondent, Times of India.

6. Smt. Mira Mozoomdar, former Deputy Director General, Doordarshan.

Official members

1. Shri B.K. Zutshi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting...Chairman
2. Shri Shiv Sharma, Additional Director General, Doordarshan.
3. Smt. Urmila Gupta, Executive Director, Directorate of Film Festival.
4. Shri V.B. Chandra, Chief Producer, Films Division.

(b) Shri L.V. Prasad, President, Motion Pictures Association of South India was included as member of the Board; but he opted out later on the ground of ill health.

(c) The total number of applications received was 5120. A region-wise record is not maintained by Doordarshan.

Industrial growth of Orissa

*1041. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the industrial growth rate of Orissa compares favourably with the all India level;

(b) if not, what are the deficiencies;

(c) whether State Government of Orissa has sought assistance from Union Government to get over the sagging in industrial growth in the State; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (b). Central Statistical Organisation does not

compile Statewise Index of Industrial Production. However on all-India basis, the rate of Industrial growth was 8.7 per cent during April-January 1987-88 as against 7.8 per cent in the corresponding period of the previous year.

(c) and (d). From time to time State Governments do take up issues relating to industrial promotion with Central Government which are given utmost attention by the Central Government. In order to promote industrialisation in Orissa, 8 out of 13 districts have been declared as industrially backward and given various incentives. During the three years 1985-87, 74 letters of intent have been issued to the State. Further, 102 units have been registered under the Scheme for delicensed industries initiated in 1985.

Faulty estimates for power projects

10290. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that the final project costs of State Electricity Boards (SEBs) are invariably in excess of the estimates originally approved by the Planning Commission and the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) by a margin of 108 per cent to 300 per cent; and

(b) if so, the reasons for these excesses and the steps taken to remedy the faulty estimates ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSMILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Import of AH Salt

10291. SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have evaluated the effect of allowing import of AH Salt on

the capacity utilisation of caprolactum plants of GSFC, FACT and project of ESIDC;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how Government propose to protect these plants in the public sector ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) to (c). The present consumption of AH Salt is negligible and the requirement is totally met through imports. The present level of import of AH Salt will not have any major effect on the capacity utilisation of the Caprolactam plants.

Coal Deposits

10292. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are making efforts to find out the coal deposits in the country;

(b) if so, the details regarding the steps taken to explore the areas and the anticipated reserves of coal found; and

(c) when it is likely to be possible to exploit the coal commercially ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir Regional exploration for locating coal deposits in the country is carried out by the Geological Survey of India which is a continuous process. Based on these explorations, detailed exploration is taken up by Central Mine Planning and Design Institute, Ranchi alongwith the Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited and other drilling agencies for mine planning purposes. The state-wise details of cumulative coal reserves, as per assessment made by GSI, as on 1/1/88 are given below :

(Cumulative Reserves in million tonnes)

State	1987
(a) Andhra Pradesh	10435.50
(b) Arunachal Pradesh	90.23
(c) Assam	280.03
(d) Bihar	57570.90
(e) Madhya Pradesh	26852.93
(f) Maharashtra	5075.40
(g) Meghalaya	458.94
(h) Nagaland	12.05
(i) Orissa	39662.82
(j) West Bengal	30021.74
	170460.54

(c) Coal production in the country is always planned to meet the present demand and the anticipated future demand. A broad coalfield-wise production profile has been drawn up to exploit the coal resources matching the demand of the country. With the execution of these plans, it is expected to achieve production of 212 million tonnes of coal in 1989-90, 325.00 million tonnes in 1994-95 and 417.00 million tonnes in 1999-2000.

Misuse of lines by Telecom. Staff

10293. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the subscribers bar the STD facility due to inflated and incorrect bills arising from the reported misuse of lines by Telecom. Staff; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to stop such misuse in the interest of keeping the 'Link to the world' open ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The following preventive measures are being taken to safeguard the interests of the subscribers against misuse of lines, if any :—

1. Raising and locking of Distribution points and also locking of cabinets/pillars/meter rooms.
2. Use of Multi Line Observation Equipment to observe selected lines.
3. Use of Automatic Message Accounting Equipment to provide item-wise bills.
4. Transfer of STD connections to STD barred division on request.
5. Periodical testing of meters.
6. Provision of fortnightly meter readings to subscribers on request.

**Memorandum of Understanding
between Government and
National Thermal Power
Corporation**

10294. SHRI H. B. PATIL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government and the National Thermal Power Corporation have recently signed a memorandum of understanding for 1988-89; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for 1988-89 concluded recently between the Government and the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) sets out the targets to be achieved by the Corporation during the year and the action to be taken by Government to facilitate achievement of the targets. The MOU provides, inter alia, that the NTPC would, during the year, commission an additional capacity of 1420 MW, generate a total of 28000 million

units of energy, achieve a turnover of Rs. 1226.51 crores, earn a profit (before tax) of Rs. 200.59 crores and make a total investment of Rs. 2185.34 crores on various schemes.

**Supply of electricity to remote Tribal
villages in Madhya Pradesh**

10295. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to supply electricity to the remote tribal villages on priority basis, particularly in the State of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the number of tribal villages which are proposed to be electrified in different districts of Madhya Pradesh during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(c) the number of tribal villages in various districts which have been electrified so far during the current Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c). In Madhya Pradesh, there are 26,825 tribal villages out of which 15796 tribal villages have been electrified upto 31.8.88. For speedy electrification of tribal villages in the country, funds are routed through Rural Electrification Corporation to the State Electricity Boards on softer terms and conditions of loan assistance under Minimum Needs Programme. During the current plan, 4770 tribal villages have been electrified upto 31.3.1988.

**Establishment of units in foreign
countries by Indian drug
manufacturers**

10296. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Indian drug manufacturers are planning to establish their units in foreign countries;

(b) if so, the names of the units and the names of the countries where they will establish their units and on what terms and conditions;

(c) whether Union Government have given the clearance; and

(d) if so, on what conditions?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
(SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Government have approved three proposals which are yet to be implemented. The names of the parties, countries and the main terms and conditions are given below in the statement.

On a proposal from M/s. Ranbaxy Laboratories, Government have yet take a decision.

Statement

Name of the company	Name of the country of Joint Venture/Subsidiary	Terms and conditions	Equity participation by the Indian company.	Lumpsum technical assistance fee to be charged by the Indian company	Royalty Payable to the Indian company
1	2	3	4	5	
1. M/s. United Chemolide Industries Pvt. Ltd.	Nigeria	51% amounting to Naira 2.55 lakhs	Naira 50,000	1% of net sales for a period of 5 years	
2. M/s. Lupin Laboratories Ltd.	Thailand	65% amounting to Baht 195.00 lakhs in the following manner : (i) M/s. Lupin Labs. : Baht 175.50 lakhs (ii) M/s. Lupin Agro-Chemicals : Baht 19.50 lakhs	(a) Rupees 40 lakhs, out of which Lupin Labs. will capitalize Indian Rs. 15 lakhs towards its equity participation in the joint venture. Rest of amount i.e. Indian Rs. 25 lakhs will be repatriated to India.	Baht 280,20 lakhs (Projection)	

1	2	3	4
3. M/s. Hoechst (I) Ltd.	Nepal (100% subsidiary)	The Indian C. shall provide loan to the subsidiary amounting to Nep. Rs. 3.57 million at terms to be approved by the Reserve Bank of India.	(1) @ US dollars 3% of net value of sales for a period of ten years. Lupin Labs. will capitalise to the extent of Tbai Babt 31.50 lakhs. Rest of amount will be repatriated to India.

**Installation of local Public Call Offices
at local Post Offices**

10297. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any instructions have been issued by the Department of Telecommunications to the Telecom. circles and other subordinate field offices for the installation of at least one local Public Call Office at the local Post Office without this facility. at the time of installation of a new exchange;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and whether it has been implemented by the field offices at the time of the installation of new rural exchanges alongwith details thereof for Himachal Pradesh for the year 1987-88; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and whether it would be ensured that the local Public Call Offices are installed before the installation work in the new exchanges is completed ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No such instructions have been issued by the Department.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no such proposal with the Department at present.

**Optimal utilisation of compressed
natural gas**

10298. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has made any head-way in optimal utilisation of compressed natural gas (CNG) in the transport sector and conducted any trials;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the likely saving to result from switch-over to CNG for every 100 kms for a diesel driven truck; and

(d) the likely foreign exchange savings from the usage of CNG by replacement of gasoline or diesel run vehicles ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) to (d). The usage of compressed natural gas (CNG), as an automotive fuel for the substitution of diesel/petrol has been taken up by ONGC on an experimental basis at their various operational centres, viz. Bombay, Rajamundry (AP), Gujarat and Tripura. The saving likely to arise from the switch-over to CNG can be estimated only after detailed experimentation is completed.

Opening of new Post Offices in Tripura

10299. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the names of the towns and villages in Tripura where new post offices were opened during 1987-88 and those likely to be opened during 1988-89 ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : Post offices have been opened at the following places in Tripura during 1987-88.

- (i) Ratia
- (ii) Paschim Chandrapur.
- (iii) Kakripur.
- (iv) Paharpur.

Post offices are proposed to be opened at the following places during 1988-99.

- (i) Barmura gas thermal project.
- (ii) Bhati Sonaimuri.

LPG facility in Orissa

10300. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of the towns/cities of Orissa where LPG facility has been provided till date; and

(b) the number of towns where such facility is likely to be provided during the remaining period of the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) As on 31.3.1983, the oil industry was marketing LPG through 62 distributorships at the following locations in Orissa :

Name of the town/city	District
1. Aska	Ganjam
2. Bhadrak	Baleshwar
3. Bargarh	Sambalpur
4. Balugoan	Solangir
5. Baleshwar	Baleshwar
6. Baripada	Mayurbhanj
7. Berhampur	Ganjam
8. Bolangir	Bolangir
9. Bhubaneswar	Puri
10. Brajrajnagar	Sambalpur
11. Burla	Sambalpur
12. Chatrapur	Ganjam
13. Cuttack	Cuttack
14. Dhenkanal	Dhenkanal
15. Jatni	Puri
16. Jeypore	Koraput
17. Keorjargarh	Keonjhar

18. Koraput	Koraput
19. Kendrapara	Cuttack
20. Paradip	Cuttack
21. Phulbani	Phulbani
22. Puri	Puri
23. Rayagada	Koraput
24. Rourkela	Sundargarh
25. Rajgangpur	Sundargarh
26. Sambalpur	Sambalpur
27. Sunabeda	Koraput
28. Titlagarh	Bolangir
29. Anandpur	Keonjhar
30. Parlekhemundi	Ganjam
31. Bhavanipatna	Kalahandi
32. Sundargarh	Sundargarh
33. Barbil	Keonjhar
34. Angul	Dhenkanal
35. Jharsuguda	Sambalpur
36. Paradeep	Cuttack
37. Birmitrapur	Sundargarh
38. Bhanjanagar	Ganjam
39. Zinknagar	Sundargarh
40. Jajpur Road	Cuttack

(b) Upto the Marketing Plans 1987-88, the oil industry has planned to set up 21 more LPG distributorships in Orissa.

New Post Offices opened in Kerala

10301. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the names of the towns and villages in Kerala where new post offices were opened during 1987-88 ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : The information is furnished in the statement given below,

Statement*(Annexure)***KERALA CIRCLE***Statement of new Post Offices opened during 1987-88.*

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Kadakkal | 2. Ayroopara |
| 3. Kottankara | 4. Ittiva |
| 5. Karikuzhi | 6. Kulathupuzha |
| 7. Ummannoor | 8. Vilappil |
| 9. Kadakkal | 10. Chavara South (Thekkumbhagom) |
| 11. Peringala | 12. Pavithreswaram |
| 13. Paruthipaaly | 14. Ayroor-Varkala |
| 15. Kattumpuram | 16. Pramadam |
| 17. Kunnathbukal | 18. Kulathupuzha |
| 19. Piravanthoor | 20. West-Kallada |
| 21. Perumala | 22. Ranni-Perinad |
| 23. Anchal | 24. Randamada |
| 25. Arakkulam | 26. Vengoor-West |
| 27. Poonjar (Thekkekar) | 28. Vengoor-East |
| 29. Valayam | 30. Poolacode |
| 31. Kulukklur | 32. Pariyaram |
| 33. Chengarottu | 34. Manjalur |

Note : All the above post offices have been opened in rural areas. No new post office was opened during the year in urban areas.

Manufacture of biscuits

10302. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have called upon the biscuit manufacturers in the country to ensure high standards of quality, broad-base product range and make strenuous efforts to reverse the declining trend in exports;

(b) whether it has also been decided to consider the suggestion of the Industry for the supply of biscuits under Government's nutrition feeding programme if the industry could ensure the requisite calorie and protein standards within the approved unit cost;

(c) whether the federation President has pleaded for cash compensatory support for the differential between domestic and international prices of the major inputs like wheat flour, sugar and packaging paper so as to boost exports from the present low levels of 800 tonnes per annum; and

(d) if so, the progress made so far by Government after having a dialogue with the biscuit manufacturers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For inclusion of low cost and nutritive biscuits in the nutrition feeding

programme, the Industry will have to approach Department of Women and Child Development in the Ministry of Human Resource Development which is administratively responsible for providing supplementary nutrition to children, pregnant women and nursing mothers.

(c) and (d). Government have come across newspaper reports regarding the plea of the Federation of Biscuit Manufacturers of India for cash compensatory support for the differential between the domestic and international prices of major inputs. Ministry of Commerce have however stated that export of biscuits already attracts cash compensatory support at the rate of 10 per cent of the FOB value and that no request has been received for revision of the existing rate.

Public Sector Enterprise receiving Gold Citation Grade Award of British Safety Council, London

10303. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any public sector enterprise has been selected for the Gold Citation Grade Award for 1987 instituted by the British Safety Council, London; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (b). As per available information the Hardwar Unit of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited was selected for the Gold Citation Grade Award for the year 1987 instituted by British Safety Council, London.

Opening of new Post Offices in West Bengal

10304. SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the names of the towns and villages in West Bengal where new post offices were opened during 1987-88 and those likely to be opened during 1988-89 ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : The information is furnished in the statement given below.

Statement

WEST BENGAL

New Post Offices opened during 1987-88

Part-I

North 24 Parganas

Mashyampur
Chandpur
Purba Atapur
Ghatihara
Kbhanika
Paschim Parghumti
Boaldah
Gobila
Kumarkhola
Nataberia
Gaipur
Kanchanpara
Dakshim Korakati
Bhagyamantapur
Noapara Madhabpur
Kharua Chandpur

Midnapore

Golebazar
Uttaroral
Dumuria Sirisbani
Kendugari
Rangamatia
Hiradihi
Kalija
Siromoni
Pathartoria
Banpukuria
Amdai
Ergoda—Sijua
Jayanti Narayan Chock
Radha Chandanpor*

South 24 Parganas

Kalikata
 Bhagar Chaltaberia
 Ktishnamati
 Khojkhidir
 Tenulia
 Madhyamanirtat
 Pukurberia
 Ghazirmahal Chitamari
 Pailanhat
 Pranballavpur

Nadia

Iswarchand: .pur
 Chandanpur

Murshidabad

Chowrigacha
 Raja Rampur
 Monirampur
 Khosbaspur
 Salinda
 Rejinagar

Midnapore

*Dakshin Changra Chowk
 Mayachar
 Teghari
 Motilal-chak
 Naynan
 Junebani
 Noon-Handa
 Nochipur

Bankura

Chakaltoria
 Kanuri

Howrah

Ula

Parala

Chhotosogen

Cooch-Behar

Dakim Chowakheti
 Mansai
 Uttar Andaman Phulbari
 Jhal Jhali
 Purbasitalkuti
 Baradhopep Chatra
 Bara Chokirbas
 Nathuatari
 Paschim Satali
 Birpara Alipurduar
 Brojer Kuthi
 Beluk Dabari
 Uttarpuro Kata
 Rasik Bill
 Uttarfalmanirin

Bardwan

Charmanik Nagar
 Akra
 Ibrambad Sonadanga
 Panjoa
 Nuni

Birbhum

Gorola
 Joykrishnapur
 Uttarbhanagram

Jalpaiguri

Madhya Rangali Bazar
 Nabanagar
 Vivekananda Pally
 Madhya Kherbari

Malda

Motiharpur
 Taherpur
 Batinbanga
 Abil
 Jabra

West Dinajpur

Joredighi
 Nilgambhir
 Baratakigram
 Tangal Bilpara
 Kaldigibi
 Simalia
 Khurka

WEST BENGAL

*Post Offices likely to be opened
 during 1988-89*

Part-II

Cooch Bihar

Madhya Kaljani
 Tradaha
 Purba Gopalpur
 Bilshi

Cooch Bihar

Bhandijalas
 East Sakon bala
 Rakhalmari
 Purba Khalisamari
 Uttar Ambari
 Dakshin Kamayakhaguri
 Sikarpur
 Sankos T.E
 Kartik Choupati

Birbhum

Khopa Khati
 Chhote Turigram
 Dwaranda Rampur
 Mahespur
 Dharampur
 Palita

Jalpaiguri

Panisala
 Mantadari
 Totopara

Darjeeling

Sindipong

Midnapore

Palchui
 Islampur
 Sardiha Rly. stn. Colony
 Ajodhyanagar
 Jamitya
 Gobradan
 Mirzanagar
 Burarihat
 Salika Garhachak
 Bargashipur

West Dinajpur

Bhaispitta
 Bhagbatipur
 Purba Belbari
 Kamdebbati
 Rajuha
 Dudhi Kotbari

Malda

South Kadamtala
 Hatinda
 Mahakalbana
 Baluchara
 Nowada
 Parbatidanga
 Mohana

Bankura

Brindabanpur Barsal
 Ranga

Burdwan

Begut

Purulia

Pathakdih

(This list is not final. Proposals in respect of areas not covered in the list may also be considered.)

Regional imbalance

10305. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA-MURTY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to avoid and reduce the regional imbalance among the States through dispersal of major industries in different States to the extent possible;

(b) the details of investments so far made in various States on account of various heavy industries etc.;

(c) the details of various other industries both medium and major in different States which are still pending consideration by Union Government; and

(d) what are the various industries in respect of which letters of intent were given by Union Government and the industries not started so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Apart from using the

licensing mechanism to direct investments for setting up industries in backward areas, a number of fiscal and financial incentives are also given for development of backward areas thereby reducing the regional imbalances.

During the period 1985 to 1988 (upto March), a total of 2159 industrial licences (including 721 Carry-on-Business licences) were granted under the provisions of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act for setting up of various types of industries. State-wise break-up of these industrial licences is given below in the statement-I. Information regarding actual investments made in industries set up in different States is not centrally maintained in the Ministry of Industry.

(c) Statement-II is given below.

(d) Scheduled Industry wise break-up of letters of intent granted during the period 1985 to 1988 (upto March, 1988) is given below in the statement-III. Since it generally takes about 3 to 4 years for an industrial project to fructify, the various projects for which these letters of intent have been issued would presently be at different stages of implementation.

Statement-I

State-wise break-up of Industrial Licences Issued during the years 1985, 1986, 1987 and 1988 (upto March)

State/Union Territory	No. of industrial licences issued			
	1985	1986	1987	1988 (upto March)
1. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	2	1	—	—
2. Andhra Pradesh	70	40	38	5
3. Arunachal Pradesh	6	1	1	—
4. Assam	12	5	3	—
5. Bihar	20	9	9	—
6. Chandigarh	6	2	2	—
7. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2	1	2	1
8. Delhi	7	10	11	4
9. Goa	4	2	7	—
10. Daman & Diu	—	—	1	—

1	2	3	4	5
11. Gujarat	69	86	49	10
12. Haryana	46	36	25	6
13. Himachal Pradesh	12	9	3	—
14. Jammu & Kashmir	6	4	4	—
15. Karnataka	69	42	45	4
16. Kerala	24	13	7	—
17. Lakshdweep	—	—	—	—
18. Madhya Pradesh	39	34	18	3
19. Maharashtra	134	96	86	23
20. Manipur	—	—	—	—
21. Meghalaya	—	2	—	—
22. Mizoram	—	—	—	—
23. Nagaland	—	—	1	—
24. Orissa	25	12	8	—
25. Pondicherry	12	2	1	—
26. Punjab	72	37	19	6
27. Rajasthan	38	19	16	3
28. Sikkim	—	—	1	—
29. Tamil Nadu	177	61	41	3
30. Tripura	—	—	—	1
31. Uttar Pradesh	79	69	40	9
32. West Bengal	51	21	25	6
33. State not indicated/ More than one State	3	4	9	—
Total :	985	618	472	84

Statement-II

State-wise break-up of Industrial Licence applications being processed in the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals, Ministry of Industry, as on 5.5.1988

Name of the State/U.T.	Number of Applications
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	64
Assam	7
Bihar	17
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3
Daman & Diu	1
Gujarat	51
Goa	5
Haryana	19

1	2
Himachal Pradesh	24
Jammu & Kashmir	11
Karnataka	40
Kerala	10
Madhya Pradesh	57
Maharashtra	103
Meghalaya	1
Orissa	10
Pondicherry	6
Punjab	46
Rajasthan	27
Sikkim	1
Tamil Nadu	43
Tripura	2
Uttar Pradesh	106
West Bengal	24
More than one State	14
Total	692

Statement-III

Scheduled industry wise break-up of letters of intent issued during the years 1985, 1986, 1987 & 1988 (upto March)

Scheduled Industry	No. of Letters of Intent issued during				
	1985	1986	1987	1988 (upto March)	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Metallurgical Ind.	244	149	129	13	
2. Fuels	3	1	—	2	
3. Boilers & Steam Generating Plants	1	2	—	—	
4. Prime Movers (other than electrical equipments)	4	3	—	1	
5. Electrical Equipment	295	254	703	21	
6. Telecommunications	175	49	22	10	
7. Transportation	73	19	17	3	
8. Industrial Machinery	53	22	255	5	
9. Machine Tools	14	1	3	1	
10. Agricultural Machinery	—	—	—	—	
11. Earth Moving Machinery	3	2	2	—	

1	2	3	4	5	6
12. Misc. Mech. & Engg. Inds.		63	31	26	4
13. Commercial Office & household equipments		21	9	4	2
14. Medical & Surgical Appliances		3	5	9	1
15. Industrial Instrument		23	8	11	2
16. Scientific Instrument		2	—	5	—
17. Mathematical, Surveying & Drawing Instruments		—	—	—	—
18. Fertilizers		15	7	5	—
19. Chemicals (other than fertilizers)		180	216	169	26
20. Photographic Raw Film & Paper		—	2	—	—
21. Dye-Stuffs		—	1	3	—
22. Drugs & Pharmaceuticals		48	46	35	7
23. Textiles (incl. those dyed or otherwise processed)		87	132	82	13
24. Paper & Pulp (incl. Paper products)		20	15	13	2
25. Sugar		2	1	55	14
26. Fermentation Inds.		2	1	4	—
27. Food Processing Inds.		20	29	63	9
28. Veg. Oils & Vanaspati		16	25	16	4
29. Soaps, Cosmetics & Toilet Preparations		3	4	3	—
30. Rubber Goods		18	8	13	3
31. Leather, Leather Goods & Pickers		18	10	36	1
32. Glue & Gelatin		1	1	—	—
33. Glass		9	7	3	—
34. Ceramics		11	15	2	1
35. Cement & Gypsum products		17	31	24	2
36. Timber products		8	13	6	2
37. Defence Industries		—	—	—	—
38. Misc. Industries		5	11	11	1
Total		1457	1130	989	150

Opening of new post offices and telegraph offices

10306. SHRI MATILAL HANSDA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the number of post offices and telegraph offices proposed to be opened in the country during 1988-89, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND
MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI VASANT SATHE) : *Post Offices*—3,000 new post offices have been provided for in Annual Plan 1988-89. The tentative targets State-wise are furnished below in Statement I.

Telegraph Offices—1578 telegraph offices are planned to be opened during the year 1988-89. State-wise details are furnished below in Statement II.

Statement I

Annual Plan 1988-89

Tentative State-wise targets for opening of new Post Offices

State/Union Territories	Number of new Post Offices proposed to be opened (Plan)	
	Rural Branch offices	Departmental sub-offices in Project areas/Developing areas
1. Andhra Pradesh	150	5
2. Assam	230	4
3. Bihar	225	5
4. Gujarat	100	5
5. Haryana	30	5
6. Himachal Pradesh	75	3
7. Jammu & Kashmir	775	2
8. Karnataka	100	5
9. Kerala	75	5
10. Madhya Pradesh	230	5
11. Maharashtra	230	6
12. Manipur	30	2
13. Meghalaya	30	1
14. Nagaland	20	1
15. Orissa	175	5
16. Punjab	50	2
17. Rajasthan	175	5
18. Sikkim	25	2
19. Tamil Nadu	125	5
20. Tripura	30	2
21. Uttar Pradesh	275	5
22. West Bengal	165	5
23. Andman & Nicobar Islands	15	2
24. Arunachal Pradesh	30	2
25. Chandigarh	—	2
26. Dadar & Nagar Haveli	110	1
27. Delhi	10	3
28. Goa	30	2
29. Lakshadweep	5	1
30. Mizoram	25	1
31. Pondicherry	5	1
Total :	2750	100

Note : The Annual Plan provides for 3,000 new post offices. The balance of 150 post offices will be allocated after a mid-year review to be taken up in October 1988.

Statement II

List of number of Telegraph Offices planned to be opened during the year 1988-89, State-wise

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of Telegraph Offices,
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12
2.	Assam	66
3.	Bihar	133
4.	Gujarat	125
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	56
6.	Haryana	71
7.	Himachal Pradesh	27
8.	Karnataka	151
9.	Kerala	—
10.	Madhya Pradesh	328
11.	Maharashtra	149
12.	New Delhi	—
13.	Orissa	75
14.	Punjab	60
15.	Rajasthan	30
16.	Tamilnadu	25
17.	Tripura	12
18.	Uttar Pradesh	178
19.	West Bengal	74
20.	Sikim	3
21.	Andman & Nicobar	3
Total :		1578

Improvement in public telephones system

10307. SHRI D. P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of public telephones proposed to be installed in Gujarat in 1988;

(b) whether it is a fact that a very small number of telephones are to be installed country-wide in 1988;

(c) the steps are being taken to improve public telephones system all over the country; and

(d) whether any scheme has been drawn up for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) About 1000 public telephones are expected to be installed during 1988-89.

(b) No, Sir. More than 5000 local public telephones and 2400 long distance public telephones are expected to be installed in the whole country during 1988-89.

(c) and (d). In order to improve the performance of public telephones following steps have been taken :

- (i) Daily testing and checking of public telephones;
- (ii) Development and use of improved version of pay phone instruments;
- (iii) Better performance of internal and external equipment of telephone exchanges.

Revision in rates of calls from Public Call Offices

10308. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rates for making calls from the Public Call Offices (PCO) have since been revised in Delhi;

(b) whether the telephone authorities have necessary instructions to the public call office users in this regard either on the booths or otherwise;

(c) the total number of PCOs in Delhi and also of those which provide direct dialling trunk call facility, separately;

(d) whether any complaints have been received for not giving information to the public regarding the revised rates and consequently losing 50 paise coins by innumerable persons; and

(e) whether necessary action has since been taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Rates for calls from public telephones have been revised through-out the country, including in Delhi.

(b) No, Sir. Instructions regarding revised tariff for use of two 50 paise coins have been affixed on face panel as well as near the slot at the public telephones.

(c) There are 4926 Public Telephones (as on 1.4.1988) in Delhi. Of the above, 24 Public Telephones provide STD/ISD call facilities.

(d) Some complaints regarding revised instructions not being displayed on public telephones came to notice. It was found that sticker on the face panel displaying revised instructions had been removed by some unscrupulous persons in some of the booths, though the stickers near the coin-slot were intact.

(e) Steps have been taken to get the revised instructions written near the coin-slot of the public telephones.

Manufacture of Chemicals

10309. SHRI BIMALKANTI GHOSH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of Chemicals indigenously manufactured out of total requirement;

(b) whether Government are aware that due to shortage of chemicals, the quality of research in the country is affected; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) Since there is a large number of Chemicals, it is not possible to indicate the precise percentage but it can be said that today, the country has sufficient installed capacity to largely meet the demand of most of the basic chemicals. In fact, the country is exporting chemicals including agro chemicals and dyes stuffs to a number of countries.

(b) No, Sir. Facilities exist for import of those chemicals not available in the country.

(c) Does not arise.

**M/s. Jindal Aluminium Limited,
Bangalore**

10310. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission has instituted an enquiry against M/s. Jindal Aluminium Ltd., Bangalore for misleading advertisements in regard to their products, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the company ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). As per the provisions of the MRTP Act, 1969 relating to unfair trade practices, the M.R.T.P. Commission has instituted an enquiry against M/s. Jindal Aluminium Limited for issuing a misleading advertisement to the effect that the irrigation system made by them is the best and also

for making a false representation to the public stating that the company uses only ISI marked extruded aluminium pipes which are seamless and possess higher strength to withstand high pressure among other properties.

The Commission is empowered to take further appropriate action in the matter as per the relevant provisions of the said Act.

Payment to contractors by Neyveli Lignite Corporation

10311. SHRI H.G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount paid to different contractors either foreign or Indian who have been engaged by the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited, Neyveli, Tamil Nadu till 31 March 1988 and who were awarded various contracts projects in the year 1986 alongwith the names of the parties;

(b) whether any amount is due from the contractors towards discharge of their earlier liabilities to the Neyveli Lignite Corporation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : (a) Following are the names of different contractors, both foreign and Indian, who were awarded various project contracts by the Neyveli Lignite Corporation during the year 1986. The total amount paid to them upto 31.3.1988 was Rs. 116, 86, 65, 138.53 and DMs 1,81,52,500.

S. No. Name of the Contractor

- | | |
|----|-------------------------------|
| 1. | M/s. Unitorn Ltd., Haryana |
| 2. | M/s. Keltron, Trivandrum |
| 3. | M/s. Furnace AD 2 and Foundry |

4. M/s. L & T Ltd.
5. M/s. Ouality Decor
6. M/s. Rangasamy
7. M/s. Syndicate Engg. Corporation
8. M/s. Hindustan Steel Work Construction.
9. M/s. Rathna and Company
10. M/s. Babu Engg Corporation
11. Shri M. Govindarajan
12. M/s Krupp Industries
13. M/s. Buckau Wolf Ltd., Pune
14. M/s. Best and Crompton
15. M/s. HBP/Bombay
16. M/s. E.E.Co /Madras
17. Sri K. M. Arumugham
18. M/s. Maharashtra Electronics
19. M/s. Indian Telephone Industries, Madras.
20. M/s. Jyothi Ltd., Baroda
21. M/s. Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.
22. M/s EVT, West Germany
23. M/s. MAN-GHH, West Germany
24. M/s. WMI, Madras.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Acquisition of Land for Maithon and Panchet Reservoirs in Bihar

10312 SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of West Bengal has approached Union Government and Government of Bihar to acquire additional land in order to increase the capacity of the Maithon and Panchet reservoirs in Bihar for control of floods in the State; and

(b) if so, the specific steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE

MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). An agreement signed by the Chief Ministers of Bihar and West Bengal on 19th July, 1978, provided, inter-alia, for acquisition of the remaining reservoir lands within Maithon reservoir between RL 495 and RL 500 and within Panchet reservoir between RL 425 and RL 445, primarily for flood moderation. A committee was appointed to study the effects of that proposal on the mining of coal in the area and to recommend suitable ways and means for solving the problems resulting therefrom. The Committee has since submitted its report. The recommendations made by the Committee are under evaluation in consultation with the concerned Ministries/Departments.

Application of Section 630 of the Companies Act.

10313. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given on 19 April, 1988 to Unstarred Question No. 7436 regarding Supreme Court judgement regarding Section 630 of Companies Act and state :

(a) whether any complaints have been received by the Company Law Board after the Supreme Court's recent judgement regarding the active connivance of some big companies in New Delhi and Bombay with their erstwhile employees in not getting back the residential accommodation taken on lease by these Companies for their use and settling their dues before handing over possession of the houses which continue to be occupied by them and the Companies having failed to invoke Section 630 of the Companies Act, 1956 in such cases;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by Government to discipline these Companies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Posts lying vacant at AIR Station and Doordarshan Kendra, Hyderabad

10314. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) Whether a large number of reserved posts for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are lying vacant at All India Radio Station and Doordarshan Kendra, Hyderabad for a long time;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to fill up these vacancies ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) to (c). Reservation rosters for Group 'A' and 'B' posts are maintained on all India basis and not Station/Kendra-wise.

In All India Radio, Hyderabad, no posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for which the roster is locally maintained are lying vacant. In Doordarshan Kendra Hyderabad, however, the following reserved posts are lying vacant :

Designation of the post	Reserved for	
	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes
1. Technician	2	2
2. Clerk Grade II	—	1
3. Helper	—	1

The posts of Technician could not be filled up either because the Staff Selection Commission/Employment Exchange failed to nominate suitable candidates or because the candidates nominated did not join. The vacancies have again been notified.

Pre-appointment formalities are under process for selected candidates against

vacancies for the post of Clerk Grade II and Helper, which arose only in 1988.

Reorganisation of Vigilance units in Public Sector Undertakings

10315. SHRI SAMBHAJI RAO KAKADE :
SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken note of the observations made by Central Vigilance Commission in its report for 1986 of inadequacy of attention given to vigilance work in public undertakings;

(b) whether Government have taken steps to reorganise the vigilance units in these public sector undertakings; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Various steps have been taken to strengthen the vigilance arrangements in Public Sector Undertakings. The Chief Vigilance Officer will report directly to the Chief Executive of the Public Sector Undertaking. In view of the great difficulties experienced by the Public Sector Undertakings in filling up the post of Chief Vigilance Officers in Public Sector Undertakings, certain facilities were extended recently to the Chief Vigilance Officers, namely, (1) Designating the CVOs in Schedule 'A' and 'B' companies as Executive Directors (Vigilance); (2) The CVOs are also being treated as "key officials" and accommodation is provided accordingly. (3) Staff car facilities are also provided for official duties including pick-up and drop at residences as a special case.

Vigilance cases in Public Sector Enterprises

10316. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY :
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bureau of Public Enterprises has issued instructions that in

future vigilance cases of only Board Level appointees of public sector enterprises need be referred to the Central Vigilance Commission for advice and that in respect of appointee below Board Level no reference is needed by Central Vigilance Commission;

(b) if so whether the Central Vigilance Commission has agreed to the above proposal; and

(c) whether the Central Vigilance Commission has stated that the above change in the policy would lead to a big set back in tackling of corruption in public sector undertakings ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The Bureau of Public Enterprises has issued instructions to Public Sector Undertakings stating that reference to Central Vigilance Commission may be made only in regard to such vigilance cases which pertain to Board Level appointees in view of the fact that Government is the appointing authority for Board Level posts. Such references need not be made for below Board Level appointees.

In amplification of this circular, Department of Personnel and Training have clarified that the jurisdiction of the Central Vigilance Commission in respect of general powers of prevention of corruption and supervision, direction and monitoring of vigilance work in the public sector enterprises including below Board Level appointees will continue as before. Consultations with Central Vigilance Commission with respect to vigilance enquiries/disciplinary proceedings will be necessary only for Board Level appointees. The Central Vigilance Commission has not written to Bureau of Public Enterprises seeking reconsideration of Government decision in this regard.

Establishment of Oil Related Institutions in Assam

10317. PROF. PARAG CHALIHA :
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of oil fields were found and exploited at Sibsagar in Assam by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission during the drilling operations in 1956;

(b) if so, the reasons why the ONGC did not set up any related institution of national standing at Sibsagar :

(c) whether the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd which started with refining of crude oil from Assam, set up any functional institution of All India importance in Assam;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b). ONGC started geo-scientific surveys in various parts of Assam in 1957, drilling operations in 1959 and production operation in 1966. Since then, survey, drilling and production activities by ONGC in Assam are continuing

ONGC has already decided to set up an institute of Bio-Technology and Geo-Tectonic Studies (INBIGS) in Jorhat in Assam.

(c) and (d). Two refineries of IOC located at Digboi and Guwahati are processing Assam crude oil. The following steps have been taken to promote oil industry in Assam at national level.

(i) Crude Distillation unit at Gauhati Refinery has been modernised in Dec., 1986 at the cost of Rs. 6.87 crores to improve product pattern and reduce fuel and loss.

(ii) Feasibility Report for modernisation of Digboi Refinery at an estimated cost of Rs. 172.07 crores is also under consideration of the Government.

(iii) The refineries at Digboi and

Gauhati have well equipped laboratories for carrying out testing of refinery product streams, certification of finished products, monitoring the quality of effluent discharge etc.

(iv) The refineries at Digboi and Gauhati have well equipped training centres for imparting training to the employees in various fields of refining/operation management.

(e) Does not arise.

Linking of hydel projects and thermal plants for producing cheaper Energy

10318. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the cost of different types of electricity produced in India;

(b) whether the mix of hydro electric and thermal plants electricity is cheaper;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal for linking hydro electric and thermal plants to produce cheaper energy under the Central Sector Scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). Based on the cost estimates of projects recently cleared by the Central Electricity Authority and the information available for utilities for 1985-86 the average cost of generation of electricity has been estimated as follows :—

	As in 1985-86	Based on Projects recently cleared
	(Paise per unit)	
Thermal	44.05	50-85
Hydel	9.53	35-65

Electricity generated by atomic power plants was sold to State Electricity Boards at rates varying from 40.31 to 45.37 paise per unit on 1.1.1988.

(c) and (d). Both hydel and thermal projects are being taken up in the Central Sector. Power from Central Sector projects is supplied in bulk to the State Electricity Boards at mutually agreed rates.

[Translation]

Supply of under weight cylinders in Roorkee Deoband and Hardwar

10319. SHRI RAM SINGH : Will the MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether gas consumers have continuously been lodging complaints against gas agencies in Roorkee, Deoband and Hardwar regarding less quantity of gas in the cylinders;

(b) whether lesser quantity of gas has been found in cylinders during their checking in Roorkee;

(c) if so, the action taken thereon;

(d) whether complaints in this regard have been lodged against some gas agencies in Hardwar; and

(e) if so, the outcome of the inquiries concluded into the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) No, Sir;

(b) and (c). Some cylinder were reported to be under-weight on checking. Two employees of M/s. Roorkee Gas Service were taken into custody and subsequently released, on bail;

(d) No, Sir;

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

[English]

Spurious LPG Regulators

*10320. SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that spurious LPG regulators are being sold in the market;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check the sale of such regulators;

(c) the number of persons arrested and prosecuted in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to warn people against using spurious regulators ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) The possibility of spurious LPG regulators being sold in the market by some unscrupulous elements cannot be ruled out;

(b) It is obligatory for all manufacturers of LPG regulators to obtain prior approval from the Chief Controller of Explosives;

(c) The details of any persons arrested and prosecuted in this regard are not maintained by the oil industry;

(d) The consumers are advised by the oil companies to make use of company-loaned regulators only.

Manpower in Coal India Limited

10321. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is surplus manpower in the Coal India Limited; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the estimated cost of the surplus manpower per day ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). There is no accurate estimate of surplus manpower in Coal India, though at times it has been estimated that there are about 50 thousand surplus workers. If that is so, the cost of the surplus manpower will be around Rs. 1.10 crores per day.

**Construction of Twin Tower Project
at Laxmi Nagar, Delhi**

10322. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any private architect has been appointed for the design and construction of the Twin Tower Project at Laxmi Nagar, Delhi;

(b) whether open tenders were invited before awarding the work;

(c) if so, when and if not, the reasons thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that the responsibility of cost and quality control and supervision of the project has been entrusted to the privated architect;

(e) whether this in accordance with Government's policy regarding supervision of projects involving public funds; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). M/s Bhardwaj & Bhardwaj Associates were appointed by SCOPE as the architects for the Twin Tower Project as the firm had already been appointed by the Delhi Development Authority as architects for the Laxmi Nagar District Centre of which the Twin Tower Project is a part. The appointment was made in order to facilitate design co-ordination between the Twin Tower Project and the rest of the District Centre as the building is to conform to man-

datory design controls laid down by Delhi Development Authority.

(d) to (f). SCOPE has full authority to accept or reject the recommendations made by the architects. The responsibility for building management control, quality and cost control is entirely with SCOPE. National Industrial Development Corporation has been appointed as Project Co-ordinator to assist SCOPE in these functions. SCOPE is also employing test checking agencies such as National Council for Cement and Building Materials, Sri Ram Test House, IIT, Delhi, etc to ensure that quality does not suffer.

**Tour of the Chairman, ONGC
to USA and Switzerland**

10323. SHRIMATI N.P. JHANSI LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chairman, Oil and Natural Gas Commission visited USA and Switzerland in September, 1987 and February, 1988;

(b) if so, the main purpose of the visit and whether any report has been submitted to Government; and

(c) the names of officers who accompanied the Chairman ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b). The Chairman, ONGC, has visited USA in February 1988 to participate in Offshore Mechanics and Arctic Engineering (OMAE) Conference in Houston on February 7, 1988, visited Research Centres of Chevron and Texaco at Houston, World Bank at Washington and had discussions with Corporate Manager of Chevron at San Francisco.

(c) Chairman, ONGC was not accompanied by any one.

Reservation Rules

10324. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the reservation rules are being followed in favour of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates in recruitment and departmental promotions in his Ministry/Departments.

(b) if so, the total strength of employees, category-wise as on 1 April, 1985 and 31 March, 1988 and the number of SCs and STs among them;

(c) the number of posts dereserved during the last three years and the reasons therefor:

(d) whether any complaints have been received during the last three years about discriminations and deprivation of SCs and STs in promotion and their supersessions by their juniors; and

(e) the action Government have taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Allotment of LPG Agencies to SC/ST persons against general quota

10325. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who have applied for the gas distributorship agencies against the general quota during the last three years;

(b) whether there is any ban on giving gas distributorship agencies to the persons

belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes against general quota even though they fulfil the eligibility conditions therefor; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not allotting the gas agencies to the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes against the general quota ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) The Statistics in this regard are not maintained by the Oil Industry;

(b) No, Sir;

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Telecast of programmes to educate younger generation

10326. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Prime Minister has emphasised for educating the younger generation through TV;

(b) whether Government are taking any steps in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) to (c). The Prime Minister has been emphasising the need for Doordarshan for educating the younger generation about the history and nature of freedom struggle. He also advised Doordarshan to encourage youth to involve themselves in national development. The directions of the Prime Minister are being incorporated in different programmes of Doordarshan.

**Production and demand of petro-
goods by 2000 A.D.**

10327. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any
estimate of the demand of petro-goods in
the country by 2000 AD;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the expected production of petro-
goods by 2000 AD; and

(d) the various measures adopted and
plans drawn to meet the demand of petro-
goods by 2000 AD ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE
ALAM) : (a) and (b) : A recent study has
estimated the demand of petroleum products
in the country by 2000 AD in the range of
90 to 95 million tonnes.

(c) The production of petroleum pro-
ducts on the basis of existing refining capa-
city and the capacity already planned/appro-
ved in the country by 2000 AD is estimated
at around 59 million tonnes.

(d) Steps to meet that demand through
maximisation of indigenous production of
crude, augmentation of refining capacity as
well as through import of crude and products
will continue to be made as hitherto through
suitable provisions in the Five Year and
Annual Plans.

[*Translation*]

Amendments to MRTP Act

10328. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL :
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased
to refer to the reply given on 8 March, 1988
to Unstarred Question No. 2135 regarding
study conducted by FICCI on the working
of MRTP Act and state :

(a) whether Government have taken a
final decision to amend the Monopolies
and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVE-
LOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF IN-
DUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :
(a) to (c). Some proposals for the amend-
ment of the MRTP Act are still under con-
sideration of the Government.

**Pilferage of petrol, diesel, kero-
sene, bitumen and gas cylinders**

10329. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH :
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the
large scale pilferage of petrol, diesel, kero-
sene oil, bitumen and gas cylinders in the
oil refineries;

(b) if so, the details of the cases detect-
ed during the last three years and the action
taken thereon; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be
taken to check such pilferages in future ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE
ALAM) : (a) No, Sir,

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[*English*]

LPG Agencies in Andhra Pradesh

10330. SHRI C. SAMBU : Will the
Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL
GAS be pleased to state the names of the
places in Andhra Pradesh where new LPG

agencies were allotted during the year 1987-88, category-wise ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : The oil industry awarded 8 LPG distributorships at the following places in Andhra Pradesh during 1987-88 :

Sl No.	Name of the Location	Category
1.	Hyderabad/Secunderabad	UG
2.	Adilabad	ST
3.	Urvakonda	OP
4.	Jadcherla	UG
5.	Bhainsa	UG
6.	Shriharikotta	Govt. Project
7.	Kurnool	PH
8.	Hyderabad/Secunderabad (U.A.)	DC

(UG—Unemployed Graduates/Un-employed Engineering Graduates

ST—Scheduled Tribes

OP—Open

PH—Physically Handicapped etc.

DC—Defence Category

ONGC contracts to companies having retired officers in their employ

10331. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :
DR. A. K. PATEL :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of senior officers of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission

after the retirement from the Commission have got employment in private Indian and foreign companies on huge salaries; if so, the names of such companies;

(b) whether any of these companies got any contracts or orders from or for the Oil and Natural Gas Commission during the financial year 1987-88; and

(c) if so, the details of these contracts or orders ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and shall be laid on the table of the Sabha

Setting up of a petrochemical complex in Krishna Godavari Basin

10332 SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to set up a petrochemical complex in Krishna-Godavari Basin where huge reserves of Natural Gas as well as Petroleum are established;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government now propose to formulate a proposal to make good use of these reserves ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) to (c). The presently available oil and gas in the Krishna Godavari Basin do not permit the setting up of a Refinery and Petrochemical Complex based on C₂/C₃ from this gas in this region

Leather industrial units

10333 SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the places where leather industrial units are located, State-wise;

(b) whether modernisation of these industrial units has been undertaken by the private sector; and

(c) the places where public undertakings in leather industry are located and the items they produce ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) The leather units are located almost in

all States of the country. However, the details of places where such units are concentrated are given below in the statement.

(b) Yes, Sir; the industry has witnessed substantial modernisation in the past decade.

(c) The two public sector undertakings of the Central Government are Tannery and Footwear Company (TAFCO) at Kanpur and Bharat Leather Corporation (BLC) at Agra. TAFCO manufactures leather and leather footwear while BLC manufactures wooden shoe lasts, snake skin products and leather footwear.

Statement

Statement showing places where leather industrial units are concentrated

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Names of the places in the State
1.	Tamil Nadu	: Ma ^r ras, Ranipet, Ambur, Vaniyambadi, Erode, Dindigul, Trichy.
2.	Uttar Pradesh	: Kanpur, Agra, Lucknow, Unnao.
3.	Punjab	: Jullundur, Chandigarh.
4.	Maharashtra	: Bombay, Kolhapur, Aurangabad.
5.	Madhya Pradesh	: Dewas.
6.	West Bengal	: Calcutta.
7.	Andhra Pradesh	: Warrangal, Hyderabad.
8.	Karnataka	: Bangalore.

Voltage fluctuations in use of wind energy for power generation

10334. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state .

(a) whether Government have noted wide voltage fluctuations in States like Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa, using wind energy for power generation;

(b) if so, the reasons for wide voltage fluctuations in the use of wind energy;

(c) whether Government have instructed State Governments to involve State Electricity Boards to ensure a stable grid by connecting Wind Power Energy Stations with other type of power stations; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to keep grid conditions in good state for wind energy units remaining unaffected ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Grid disturbances, including voltage and frequency

fluctuations, have been noted occasionally in Orissa and Maharashtra, which have occasionally affected the demonstration wind farm projects in these States. However, in Tamil Nadu and Gujarat the grid conditions have been satisfactory, and power production from the demonstration wind farm projects in these States has been most encouraging.

(b) The reasons for grid fluctuations have been the existence of multiple varying loads on the connecting feeders, and grid power disturbances.

(c) and (d). The State Electricity Boards, who have been associated with planning and execution, have been advised to ensure stable grids at the wind farm locations, and to extend dedicated HT lines from the wind farms to the sub-stations.

Telecast of advertisements of foods of poor nutritional value

10335. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the advertisements in respect of foods of poor nutritional value and high costs in fancy packs are telecast on television to lure the consumers;

(b) whether it is proposed to issue any new guidelines on such advertisements;

(c) whether it is also proposed to bring out programmes explaining nutritional value of natural foods and junk foods suitably;

(d) whether Government propose to enlist services of consumer groups, especially those involved in health and nutrition spheres; and

(e) if so, the details of such organisations, if any, enlisted for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

(SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) Advertising on Doordarshan is a legitimate means for marketing of products and services. Advertisements for telecast are accepted strictly in accordance with the Code for Commercial Advertising on Doordarshan. While accepting advertisements of food articles, it is also ensured that these conform inter alia with the provisions in the "Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954" and the "Consumer Protection Act, 1986".

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e). Programmes of this nature are telecast by Doordarshan in which representatives of consumer forums also participate. However, there is no scheme of enlisting consumer groups with Doordarshan.

Sickness in paper industry

10336. SHRI BANWARI LAL
PUROHIT :
PROF. RAMAKRISHNA
MORE :
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR
YADAV :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that due to shrinking profits and persisting stagnation, some medium and big paper mills are facing closure;

(b) if so, the reaction of Union Government in this regard;

(c) the steps Government propose to take to provide relief to the paper industry in the country; and

(d) Government policy initiated to forestall a crisis of sickness by overtaking the entire paper industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M.
ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Although the

paper industry has been complaining of declining profits and stagnation of demand, there is no definite indication of any medium and large paper mills facing closure on account of these reasons.

(b) The paper industry is confronted with the problems of availability of cellulosic raw materials, shortage of power and coal and technological obsolescence. The overall performance of the Industry in terms of capacity build-up and production is considered to be satisfactory. The installed capacity of the industry has gone up from 24 lakh tonnes in 1984-85 to 28.51 lakh tonnes at the beginning of 1988. The production of paper and paperboard which was 13.70 lakh tonnes in 1984 has also gone up to 16.80 lakh tonnes (estimated) at the end of 1987.

(c) and (d). Various reliefs and concessions have been extended in recent years to enable the paper industry in general to improve its capacity utilisation and financial viability. In the Budget proposals for 1988-89, a reduction of Rs. 100 per tonne in excise duty applicable to small paper mills and a reduction of Rs. 300 per tonne in the case of other mills using non-conventional raw materials has been announced. The problems of paper industry are kept in view while formulating policies and programmes for the development of the industry, from time to time.

Setting up of Industries in Kalahandi district of Orissa

10337. SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kalahandi district of Orissa has been declared a non-industry district; and

(b) if so, whether any industry has been or is proposed to be established in that district ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF

INDUSTRY (SHRI M ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). No, Sir. As there was a medium scale industry existing in Kalahandi, it was not identified as No Industry District. During the last three years one unit viz. M/s. Orissa Vegetable Oils Complex Ltd., has been granted DGTD registration for manufacture of fatty acid, glycerine and soap at Kisingha.

Calcium Carbide Plant at Rairangpur in Orissa

10338. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the establishment of the Calcium Carbide plant at Rairangpur in Orissa has been delayed ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the setting up of the above plant ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (b). M/s. Indian Carbide & Chemicals Limited, Calcutta, who are establishing the Calcium Carbide plant at Rairangpur in Orissa, have informed their project has been delayed due to paucity of funds arising out of late floating of equity shares issue for the public, because of the depression in the share market.

(c) According to the company, the financial institutions, who were approached for term loan to meet the over run cost, have just sanctioned the same. Further, they are expediting disbursement of funds from promoters also and they expect to complete the project in about three months time after the required funds are received.

Committee on sharing of unallocated power among States

10339. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have appointed a committee to go into the question of shar-

ing of unallocated power from the Central Sector power stations among the States;

(b) whether the sub-committee has completed its report; and

(c) if so, the recommendations of the sub-committee ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c). No, Sir. However, the question of reserving a portion of the electricity generated at Central Power Stations for supply to Central Public Sector Undertakings, primarily in the core sector, has been referred for consideration to a Committee on which the State Electricity Boards are represented and which has not yet submitted its report.

Improvements in old thermal power plants

10:40 SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Electricity Authority has planned to bring about improvements by fitting new parts, wherever necessary, in several old thermal power plants to raise their Plant Load Factor (PLF) or to extend their life;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether this is proposed to be done with indigenous expertise only ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to improve the performance of existing thermal power stations, a Centrally sponsored Renovation and Modernisation Programme is being implemented with a Central Loan component of Rs. 500 crores at 34 thermal power stations in the country comprising 162 thermal generating units aggregating to a capacity of 13475 MW. The power station-wise details of the R & M schemes is given below in the statement.

(c) Indigenous expertise is being utilised for renovation and modernisation of thermal generating units manufactured in the country. However, for imported thermal generating units where indigenous knowhow is not available in the country, assistance from the original foreign suppliers is being sought. In cases where imported technology has become obsolete and modern indigenous technology is available, deployment of the same is insisted as far as possible.

Statement
Details of sanctioned estimated cost of various Renovation and Modernisations Schemes
(As on 1.4.1988)

Sl. No.	Organisation/Renovation Schemes	No./Rating of Units (MW) covered under Renovation	Capacity (MW)	Sanctioned Estimated Cost			Under State Plan/Own Resources
				Total	Under Central Loan Assistance	Under State Plan/Own Resources	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
				Rupees in Lakhs			
1.	NTPC/Badarpur	5/3 × 100, 2 × 210	720	2870.60	—	2870.60	
2.	DESU/I.P.	5/1 × 35, 3 × 62.5, 1 × 60	282.5	5380.25	2451.00	2929.95	
3.	HSEB	6	415	6355.00	3172.00	3183.00	
	(i) Faridabad	3 × 60, 1 × 15	195	4300.00	2300.00	2000.00	
	(ii) Panipat	2 × 110	220	2055.00	872.00	1183.00	
4.	PSEB, Bhatinda	4/4 × 110	440	4401.70	2366.00	2035.70	
5.	UPSEB	27	2374	18330.00	10039.00	8291.00	
	(i) Panki	2 × 2, 2 × 110	284	3465.00	2514.00	951.00	
	(ii) Obra	5 × 50, 3 × 100, 5 × 200	1550	6370.00	3870.00	2700.00	
	(iii) Harduaganj	3 × 30, 2 × 50, 4 × 60, 1 × 110	540	8295.00	3655.00	4640.00	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6.	MPEB	21	1562.5	6744.18	2227.77	4516.41
	(i) Korba	1 × 10, 3 × 30,	540	1714.06	400 00	13 4.06
		4 × 50, 2 × 120				
	(ii)- Amarkantak	2 × 30, 2 × 120	300	1044 98	55.03	989.95
	(iii) Satpura	5 × 62.5, 1 × 200	722.5	3985.14	1772.74	2212.40
		1 × 210				
7.	GEB	10	1014	7257.98	2425.79	4832.19
	(i) Gandhinagar	2 × 120	240	1921.47	1111.87	809.60
	(ii) Dhuvaran	4 × 63.5, 2 × 140	534	1948.69	692.79	1255.90
	(iii) Ukai	2 × 120	240	3387 82	621.13	2766.69
8.	MSEB	9	915	4525.05	2959.78	1565.27
	(i) Koradi	4 × 120	480	3329.80	1942.00	1387.00
	(ii) Nasik	2 × 140	280	847.00	721.00	126.00
	(iii) Bhusawal	1 × 62.5	62.5	88.50	79.78	8.72
	(iv) Paras	1 × 30, 1 × 62.5	92.5	259.75	217.00	42.75
9.	APSEB	9	742.5	8348.57	3240.57	5108.00
	(i) Kothagudem	4 × 60, 4 × 110	680	8051.57	3240.57	4811.00
	(ii) Ramagundem	'B' 1 × 62.5	62.5	297.00	—	297.00
10.	TNEB	8	1080	9794.24	3609.03	6185.21
	(i) Ennore	2 × 60, 3 × 110	450	9081.48	3016.78	6064.70

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	(ii) Tuticorin	3 × 210	630	712.76	592.25	120.51
11.	NLC/Neyveli	9/3 × 100, 6 × 50	600	4970.78	—	4970.78
12.	OSEB/Talcher	4/4 × 62.5	250	3615.50	2451.66	1163.84
13.	DVC	11+2*	1125 + 110*	8870.20	3267.00	5603.20
	(i) Ch'pura	3 × 120, 3 × 140	780	6763.00	1953.00	4810.00
	(ii) Bokaro	3 × 50, 1 × 55	205	1272.00	1088.00	184.00
	(iii) Durgapur	2 × 55*, 1 × 140	*110 + 140	835.20	226.00	609.20
14.	BSEB	16	763.5	6726.00	2580.93	4145.07
	(i) Patratu	4 × 50, 2 × 100	620	4262.00	813.00	3449.00
		2 × 110				
	(ii) Barauni	2 × 50, 2 × 15	130	1946.00	1273.35	672.65
	(iii) Karbigahia	2 × 1.5, 1 × 3,	13.5	518.00	494.58	23.42
		1 × 7.5				
15.	WBSEB	8	800	5773.00	2306.82	3466.18
	(i) Santaldib	4 × 120	480	2192.00	1188.67	1003.33
	(ii) Bandel	4 × 80	320	3581.00	1118.15	2462.85
16.	DPL/Durgapur	5/2 × 30, 1 × 70, 2 × 75	280	3552.00	2166.00	1386.00
17.	ASEB/Namrup	5/3 × 23, 1 × 12.5, 1 × 30	111.5	810.00	246.00	564.00
	Total :	162+2*	13475.5+110*	108325.75	45509.35	62816.40

* Damaged in Fire

Import of tyres

10341. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the All India Tyre Dealers Federation has submitted a memorandum requesting that tyre dealers should also be allowed to import tyres under the recently announced scheme for import of tyres under Open General Licence Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Government do not consider it necessary at this stage to enlarge the scope of the scheme for import of certain categories of bus and truck tyres under OGL.

Evaluation of Capital Projects

10342. SHRI G S. BASAVARAJU :
SIRIMATI BASAVA-
RAJESWARI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new model for evaluating capital projects has been developed by the Indian economists;

(b) if so, the main features of the same;

(c) to what extent this new technique will be useful in the financial institutions and offices; and

(d) whether this new model scheme has been started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) We are not aware of development of a new model for evaluation of capital projects by Indian economist.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Import bill of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited

10343. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total import bill of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (including taxes and Import duties etc.) for each of the last three years in comparison to the total material cost and annual production during this period;

(b) the total profit/loss earned by the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited while executing physical export orders in foreign countries during the last three years with details of the export orders;

(c) the details of each such contract, where the BHEL has lost more than Rs. 100 lakhs indicating the country/project contract value in rupees, year of award completion period as per contract, actual contract completion period and total loss in rupees ?

(d) whether the BHEL paid agency commission to third parties for the above contracts; and

(e) if so, the amount and the percentage of cost paid as agency commission by the BHEL in each such case ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) The details are given below ;

	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
Import Bill (Rs. crores)	520	579	608
Import Bill as percentage of total material cost	61	59	57
Import Bill as percentage of total produc- tion	33	32	29

(b) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Loss incurred by Cycle Corpora-
tion of India**

10344. SHRIMATI VYJAYANTHI-MALA BALI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state.

(a) the total amount of loss incurred so far by the Cycle Corporation of India since its take-over; and

(b) whether Government have worked out any plan to make it a viable unit ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) The total amount of loss incurred by the Cycle Corporation of India since its take-over is about Rs. 50 crores.

(b) Government has been extending financial assistance to the company on a yearly basis such as plan and non-plan loans for modernisation, replacement of machinery and working capital needs, increase in bank credit backed by Government guarantee, etc.

**Per Capita investment in public
sector in Kerala**

10345. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study has been made regarding the per capita investment in public sector by Union Government in Kerala under the Fifth and Sixth Five Year Plans and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (b). The per capita investment in terms of Gross Block in the Central public sector enterprises in Kerala during the 5th and the 6th Five Year Plans was Rs. 85 and Rs. 160 respectively.

**Collaborative projects between
Coal India Limited and Central
Fuel Research Institute**

10346. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the collaborative projects between the Coal India Limited and the Central Fuel Research Institute to upgrade the performance of the coal washeries;

(b) whether all the projects are progressing as per schedule; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : (a) to (c). For up-gradation of the performance of coal washeries, Coal India Limited took up following projects in collaboration with Central Fuel Research Institute during the year 87-88 :

(i) Incorporation of Oleo-flotation process of CFRI in the 20 TPH Pilot Plant in the slurry circuit of Sudamdih Washery;

(ii) Stabilisation of Flotation circuit of Sudamdih Washery;

- (iii) Washability Investigations on composite feed coals of Bhojudih and Sudamdih washeries.

Of these 3 projects, 2 have already been completed and the third is progressing as Scheduled.

[Translation]

**Industries set up under Rural
Industrial Programme in
Uttar Pradesh**

10347. SHRI AKHTAR HASAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of industries set up so far in Uttar Pradesh under the Rural Industrial Programme;

(b) the district wise number of industries set up so far;

(c) the other new programmes proposed to be launched by Union Government under the Rural Industrial Programmes;

(d) the reasons for not making any progress in Kairana, under Rural Industrial Programme; and

(e) the names of the industries proposed to be set up by Union Government in future in UP, particularly in Kairana ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (e). Setting up and promotion of industries in Rural Sector primarily falls within the responsibility of State Governments. The Central Govt., however, supplements the efforts of State Governments by supportive measures. The services rendered by District Industries Centres and the programmes taken up under the aegis of Khadi and Village Industries Commission cover all the districts of U.P.

Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has undertaken development of

Khadi and 22 village industries under its normal programmes in U.P. Besides, it has also undertaking intensive development of Kh. di & Village Industries under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) in U.P. in two selected districts of Rai Bareli and Sultanpur. A list of district-wise number of Khadi and Village Industries set up so far in U.P. under normal programme of KVIC is given below in Statement-I.

The Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act has been amended recently expanding the scope of village industries. Accordingly, KVIC has identified 33 new industries for promotion from this year. The list of such industries is given below in statement-II. KVIC prepares plans State-wise. State KVI Boards through districts village industries officers implement KVI programmes in their respective districts and blocks and extend financial assistance to the individuals.

Statement-I

*District-wise no. of Industries set up
so far in Uttar Pradesh under normal
programme of KVIC*

S. No.	Name of the District	No. of Industries set up
1.	Agra	17
2.	Aligarh	15
3.	Allahabad	18
4.	Almora	11
5.	Azamgarh	11
6.	Baraich	14
7.	Ballia	11
8.	Banda	15
9.	Bara Banki	10
10.	Barilly	16
11.	Basti	13
12.	Bijnor	18
13.	Budaun	13
14.	Bulandshahr	16
15.	Chamoli	7
16.	Dehra Dun	18
17.	Deoria	11

1	2	3
18.	Etah	19
19.	Etawah	9
20.	Faizabad	15
21.	Farrukhabad	11
22.	Fathehpur	12
23.	Garhwal	9
24.	Ghaziabad	14
25.	Gazipur	12
26.	Gonda	13
27.	Gorakhpur	11
28.	Hamirpur	14
29.	Hardoi	11
30.	Jalaun	10
31.	Jaunpur	10
32.	Jhansi	15
33.	Kanpur (Rural)	17
34.	Kanpur (Urban)	6
35.	Kheri	8
36.	Lalitpur	11
37.	Lucknow	16
38.	Mainpuri	14
39.	Mathura	16
40.	Meerut	16
41.	Mirzapur	14
42.	Moradabad	18
43.	Muzaffarnagar	15
44.	Nainital	17
45.	Pilibhit	14
46.	Pithoragarh	8
47.	Pratapgarh	15
48.	Raibareli	17
49.	Saharanpur	14
50.	Shahjahanpur	12
51.	Rampur	15
52.	Sitapur	13
53.	Sultanpur	13
54.	Tehri Garhwal	11
55.	Unnao	13
56.	Uttar Kashi	8
57.	Varanasi	18

Statement-II

New Industries Identified for 1988-89

Group-I Mineral based industry

1. Stone cutting, crushing, carving and engraving for Temples and Buildings.
2. Utility articles made out of stone.

Group-II Forest based industry

3. Manufacture of paper cups, plates, bags and other paper containers.
4. Manufacture of exercise books, book binding, envelop-making, register-making including all other stationery items made out of paper.
5. Khus tattis and broom making.
6. Collection, processing and packing of Forest Produce.
7. Photo framing.

Group-III Agro based and food industry

8. Pithwork, manufacture of Pith, Mats and Garlands etc.
9. Cashew processing.
10. Leaf cup making.

Group-IV Polymer and chemical based industry

11. Products out of Rexin, PVC etc.
12. Horn and bone including ivory products.
13. Candle, camphor and sealing wax making.

Group-V Engineering and non-conventional energy

14. Manufacture of paper pins, clips, safety pins, stove pins etc.
15. Manufacture of decorative bulbs, bottles, glass etc.
16. Umbrella assembling.
17. Solar and Wind energy implements.

18. Manufacture of handmade utensils out of brass.
19. Manufacture of handmade utensils out of copper.
20. Manufacture of handmade utensils out of bell-metal.
21. Other articles made out of brass, copper and bell-metal.
22. Production of radios.
23. Production of cassette players whether or not fitted with radios.
24. Production of cassette recorder whether or not fitted with radios.
25. Production of Voltage stabilizers.

Group-VI Textile industry (excluding khadi)

26. Hosiery.
27. Tailoring and preparation of readymade garments.
28. Fishing nets out of Nylon/Cotton by hand.

Group-VII Service industry

29. Laundry.
30. Barber.
31. Plumbing.
32. Servicing of electrical wiring and electronic domestic appliances and equipments.
33. Repair of Diesel Engines, Pump Sets etc.

[English]

LPG emergency cell in Bangalore

10348. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any emergency cell to attend to LPG complaints in Bangalore city; and

(b) if not, whether Government will take steps to set up a separate emergency cell to attend to LPG complaints and speedy redressal of the same ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQE ALAM) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. However, an Emergency Service Cell is likely to be set up shortly at Bangalore to cater to LPG consumers of all the Oil Companies.

Installation of electronic digital exchanges in remote areas

10349. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether electronic digital exchanges are going to be installed in the remote areas of the country;

(b) the places where these exchanges have been opened;

(c) whether quality of telephone system has shown improvement by such exchanges; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) 128 Post C-DOT RAX have been opened in the country as under :

1. Kittur (Karnataka)

2. Churhut (M.P.) } These filed trial units

3. Vodogur } }

4. Kalyanur } Karnataka State

5. Bothamangla } }

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Electronic exchanges do not have any moving Part and so are more reliable

and less liable to faults. These enable Group dialling and ultimately National Subscriber dialling.

[*Translation*]

Single pipe connections to SC/ST bastis in Chambal Division of Madhya Pradesh

10350. SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the village-wise SC/ST bastis in Chambal Division of Madhya Pradesh where single pipe connections have been provided during the last three years; and

(b) the number of persons belonging to the said categories in whose houses these connections are still to be provided and the time by which these connections are likely to be provided ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board is providing single point connection in houses inhabited by Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes. Priority for providing such connections is decided by the State Authorities. According to reports received from Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board, single point connection on concessional rates have been given to 48,460 and 77,558 consumers belonging to the weaker sections of the society and scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, during 1985-86 and 1986-87 respectively. 40,000 such connections were proposed to be provided during 1987-88.

TV Transmission centre, Bhopal

10351. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given on 29 February, 1988 to Unstarred Question No. 1042 regarding setting up of TV relay centres in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh and state :

(a) the area in kilometres being covered by Bhopal T.V. Transmission centre;

(b) whether it is a fact that people of Ganj Basuda, Seronj and Lateri-Kurwai tehsils do not receive clear pictures from this transmitter even after installing boosters;

(c) if so, the steps being taken to remedy the situation; and

(d) the time by which people of these areas will start receiving clear pictures ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) The High Power (10 KW) TV Transmitter in Bhopal provides service to an area of about 42,300 Sq. kms.

(b) As Ganj Basuda, Seronj and Lateri-Kurwai fall in the fringe of the service area of the Bhopal transmitter, therefore only weak TV signals are received at these places.

(c) and (d). Strengthening of the TV service in the area would depend upon availability of resources in the future plans of TV expansion.

[*English*]

Energisation of pump sets

10352. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOT-HAMAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of agricultural pumpsets energised by the Rural Electrification Corporation throughout the country upto the financial year 1987-88;

(b) whether a special programme was undertaken by the Corporation to provide more agricultural pumpsets in the drought affected States;

(c) if so, the number of pumpsets set up under the special programme throughout the country; and

(d) the number of pumpsets energised in Kerala by the Corporation so far under the usual annual programme and the special drought relief programme separately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) Under the REC financed projects, 31.42 lakh (Provisional) agricultural pumpsets have been energised in the country upto 31.3.1988.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) During the drought period from August-November, 1987, about 2.27 lakhs agricultural pumpsets were completed/energised in 12 drought affected states.

(d) During 1987-88, 13,304 agricultural pumpsets (provisional) have been energised in Kerala under REC programme of which 2812 pumpsets were energised during the drought period August-November 1987.

Activities carried out by Directorate of Film Festival

10353. PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the activities carried out by the Directorate of Film Festivals during 1987-88;

(b) the total expenditure incurred on such activities;

(c) whether the officials of this organisation visit foreign countries in the discharge of their official duties;

(d) if so, the number of visits abroad by each of its officers with their rank during the last three years together with the amount of foreign exchange spent on each such visits; and

(e) the details of the benefits accrued from such visits ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). During the year 1987-88 the Directorate of Film Festivals carried out the following activities and spent Rs 136.02 lakhs thereon:

1. National Film Festival
2. National Panorama Selection
3. Festivals of foreign films in India
4. Festivals of Indian films abroad
5. International Film Festival in India (Filmotsav)
6. Festivals of India in USSR and Festivals of USSR in India
7. Festival of India in Sweden
8. Festival of India in Japan
9. Special Film expositions in India and abroad.
10. Participation in Foreign Film festivals

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Such visits are in discharge of official duties. Details thereof during the last three years and the expenditure in terms of foreign exchange on each visit are indicated in the Statement given below.

(e) Since most of the film events handled by the Directorate of Film Festivals are a part of cultural exchange programmes between India and other countries, participation of delegates from Directorate of Film Festival is necessary for organisational reasons also. It is difficult to quantify benefits from these visits. But these do help in establishing contacts with film personalities of other countries for the purposes of inviting them and their movies to India on various occasions like International Film Festival etc.

Statement
Statement regarding details of visits abroad by officers of Directorate of Film Festivals during the last three years and expenditure of foreign exchange thereon

S. No.	Name and Designation	1985-86		1986-87		1987-88		Total
		Film Festival attended	Foreign Exchange spent (in US \$)	Film Festival attended	Foreign Exchange spent (in US \$)	Film Festival attended	Foreign Exchange spent (in US \$)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Smt. Urmila Gupta Executive Director	—	—	Venice	1803	Cannes Moscow Vancouver	2825 360 1400	6388
2.	Shri A. Viren Luther Executive Director	Tokyo	1307	—	—	—	—	1307
3.	Smt. Malati Sahai Joint Director	Cannes	2090	Prague	—	Moscow	260	2350
4.	Shri Shankar Basu Sr. Deputy Director	Moscow	400	Montreal	630	—	—	1030
5.	Shri S. Narayanan Deputy Director	Pesaro	810	Tashkent Berlin	360 1800	—	—	2970

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
6.	Shri P. Prameswarad Deputy Director	Betin	1780	—	—	Mauritius Montreal	— 895	2675
7.	Shri Sunit Tandon Deputy Director	—	—	Cannes Japan	2070 —	—	—	2070
8.	Shri K. S. Sahni Deputy Director	—	—	—	—	Mauritius	—	—

Vacant post in Industry Ministry

**10354. SHRIMATI BASAVA-
RAJESWARI :
SHRI YASHWANTRAO
GADAKH PATIL :**

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of posts are lying vacant in his Ministry with the result major decisions are being delayed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the vacant posts are likely to be filled up; and

(d) whether any alternate arrangements have been made to dispose of the important cases on which the policy decisions are to be taken without further delay ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF
INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :**

(a) to (d). No, Sir. It is not true that major decisions are being delayed as a result of certain vacant posts in the Ministry of Industry, since alternative arrangements are always immediately made for the smooth functioning of the decision making machinery of the Government. Necessary action for filling up the vacant posts, as per the prescribed procedure, has already been initiated.

LPG agencies to SC/ST

10355. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have allotted LPG agencies to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe persons;

(b) whether the reservation quota for them has been filled completely;

(c) if not, the extent of short fall and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of LPG agencies allotted during the last three years to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe persons, separately ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) :**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). There is a reservation of 25 per cent for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the allotment of LPG distributorships on industry basis in each State. Marketing Plans for award of LPG distributorships are drawn up annually and out of the distributorships thus planned, 25 per cent are earmarked for the persons belonging to SC/ST. Any shortfall in a particular Marketing Plan is made up in subsequent plans.

(d) The oil industry has allotted 182 and 56 LPG distributorships respectively for persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes during the last three years.

[Translation]

Cement factories in Rajasthan

**10356. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI
SHAKTAWAT :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cement factories in Rajasthan for which licences have been given and the names of the places where these factories will be set up;

(b) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of lime stone is available in Rajasthan which can be exported after meeting the country's requirements; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to set up a cement factory in the public sector in Rajasthan ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL**

DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) Details of Industrial Licences issued for the manufacture of cement in the State

of Rajasthan during the last three years which are under implementation are given below :

Sl. No.	Name of the unit	Location	Capacity
1.	M/s. Sudarshan Cement Limited, Jaipur	Teh : Anu Road Dist : Sarohi	66,000 MT
2.	Hindustan Sugar Mills Limited, Bombay	Teh : Mavli Distt : Udaipur	8 LTA (after expansion)
3.	M/s. Nihon Nirman Cement Ltd. Jaipur	Gotan Dist : Nagpur	80,000 (white cement)
4.	JK Synthetics Ltd.	Nimbahera	15.4 LTA (after substantial expansion)

(b) According to the National Council for Cement and Building Materials, the different categories of reserves of cement grade limestone in the State of Rajasthan are as under :

- Measured ... 70.8 million tonnes
- Indicated ... 2054.7 million tonnes
- Inferred ... 5024 million tonnes

Export of limestone depends on other factors such as its export potential, cost of production, economics of transport, etc.

(c) There is no proposal to set up a cement factory in central public sector in Rajasthan during the Seventh Plan period.

[English]

LPG agency at Khammam in Andhra Pradesh

10357. SHRI MANIK REDDY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any plan to allot new LPG agencies in Khammam district of Andhra Pradesh: and

(b) if so, the details of places and the time by which these agencies are likely to be commissioned ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

[Translation]

Production of Woollen Khadi by Khadi and Village Industries Commission

10358. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission can help in solving the unemployment problem permanently by promoting production of woollen Khadi in Barmer, Jaisalmer, Bikaner and Jodhpur, the most backward districts in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, full details in this regard;

(c) whether the Commission proposes to undertake the promotion of any other rural industry in these areas in addition to woollen khadi; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) ; (a) and (b). Khadi and Village Industries Commission has constituted a desert committee to prepare a comprehensive plan for development of khadi including woollen khadi and some village industries on permanent basis in the drought prone districts of Jodhpur, Barmer, Jaisalmer and Bikaner in Rajasthan so as to provide employment to the artisans in the area. In addition to the normal programme of KVIC, a scheme for providing additional employment to 28 000 persons in these districts has been prepared under woollen khadi production programme for the years 1987-88 and 1988-89. An amount of Rs. 169.4 lakhs was released during 1987-88 for these programmes.

(c) and (d). Various industries programmes, viz. processing of cereals and pulses, non-edible oils and soap, carpentry, blacksmithy, lime industry, manufacture of aluminium utensils, leather, village oil, pottery, agarbatti making and bio-gas are presently being implemented in Jodhpur, Bikaner, Barmer and Jaisalmer districts of Rajasthan in addition to woollen khadi. An amount of Rs. 40.68 lakhs has been allocated for development of processing of cereals, non-edible oils and soap, carpentry, blacksmithy, manufacture of aluminium utensils and lime industry through State KVI Board for setting up 249 village industries units in these districts.

[English]

**Purchase of plant and machinery
by ECL**

10359. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA :
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total investment made upto the end of 1984-85 on the purchase of plant and machinery by the Eastern Coalfields Limited to build up pool plant capacity;

(b) whether the number of machines actually working has been much lower than the number of machines available with ECL for the last three years;

(c) whether these machines included shovels, scrapers, dumpers and dozers;

(d) whether either the machines were under utilised due to infrastructure being incommensurate all these years or machines being sub-standard or mis-matched due to wrong specification; and

(e) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : (a) The total investment made upto the end of 1984-85 on the purchase of plant and machinery by the Eastern Coalfield Ltd. to build up pool plant capacity is of the order of Rs. 503.18 crores.

(b) The position of number of machines on roll and actually working during the last three years is indicated in the statement given below.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The main reasons for under-utilisation of machinery were inadequacy of repair and maintenance facilities, the machinery selected being unable to perform in the given geo-mining conditions, scattered and small nature of deposits, and problems associated with land acquisition, industrial relations and erratic power supply.

(e) Corrective measures to improve utilisation of equipment have been suggested by Government and the ECL have been directed to adopt them.

Statement

The position of number of machines on roll and actually working in ECL during the year 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88

Equipment	1985-86		1986-87		1987-88	
	On Roll	Working	On Roll	Working	On Roll	Working
Shovel	55	48	59	52	68	61
Dumper	271	193	323	223	337	227
Dozer	104	71	98	63	97	63
Scrapper	38	22	38	23	38	18
Blast Hole Drills	43	32	42	33	44	36
Coal Cutting Machine	408	255	382	252	350	245
Coal Drills	1342	886	1431	898	1444	957
Shearer	5	2	6	3	6	2
Heating Machine	9	5	9	6	18	8
Side Discharge Loader	—	—	25	16	27	17

[Translation]

**Representation of Scheduled Castes/
Scheduled Tribes on Boards of
Public Sector Undertakings/
Autonomous Institutions**

10360. SHRI R. P. SUMAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of public sector undertakings/autonomous institutions under his Ministry alongwith the details of names and addresses thereof;

(b) the names of the departments/institutions out of these headed by the persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes alongwith full details thereof;

(c) the number of members of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes representing in the advisory committee/board of each of the aforesaid institutions;

(d) the reasons of non-inclusion and under-representation, if any, of such members on the boards/committees as mentioned in part (c) above; and

(e) whether Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes will be duly represented on the board./committees to be constituted in future ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

[English]

Corruption cases in Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited

10361. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of corruption cases detected in the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited, Durgapur (West Bengal) during the last three years;

(b) out of these how many cases have been referred to CBI and how many are being dealt with by MAMC's own vigilance department;

(c) whether it is a fact that a serious corruption case after being detected at construction site of Bokaro Power Plant has not been referred to CBI;

(d) whether any assessment has been made to determine the amount of losses incurred due to corruption during 1984-85, 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88;

(e) whether it is a fact that the cases of corruption are increasing leading to loss to the Corporation; and

(f) if so, the action Union Government propose to take to deal with the corruption cases firmly ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). The number of corruption cases detected in MAMC during the last three years is 29. Out of this, 7 cases are being dealt with by CBI and 22 cases by the company's own Vigilance Department.

(c) Action has been initiated against the concerned employees who have been placed under suspension and departmental enquiry instituted.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f). On the whole there has been a decline in the total number of such cases in 1986 and 1987 as compared with 1983 and 1984.

Financial Restructuring of Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited

10362. DR. SUDHIR ROY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any action for financial restructuring of the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited, Durgapur, West Bengal;

(b) whether the commitment made in respect of financial assistance arising out of financial restructuring Corporation has been complied with;

(c) whether the Company is still confronted with bad liquidity position and is suffering due to dearth of working capital; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Financial restructuring has been effected inclusive of elements, such as, writing down capital, write off of interest, moratorium on repayment of loans and non-plan loan assistance etc.

(c) and (d). The company is facing liquidity problems because of increase in prices of inputs, cancellation/deferment of certain export orders, increase in wages and salaries, stoppage of production due to strike in November/December, 1987 etc.

Collaboration Agreements of Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited

10363. SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of collaboration agreements concluded with foreign companies including multinationals during the last five years by the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited, Durgapur, particularly for the items of mining machinery, coal washery and bulk material handling plant along with the names of the companies and the name of the countries, the items supplied by the company through import to be supplied to the customer by MAMC in terms of value during last five years, year-wise;

(b) whether the collaboration agreement includes provision of gradual indigenisation, if so, whether the pace of indigenisation in respect of foreign technology and expertise in the area of products for which collaboration agreement concluded in general and longwall mining machinery, coal washery and material handling plant in particular has been progressing satisfactorily to attain self-sufficiency; and

(c) whether the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited is having necessary infrastructural facilities including R&D in existence?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
(SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) A statement is given below.

(b) The indigenisation programme of the company is in tune with the requirement of Phased Manufacturing Programme as determined by the Government taking into account the size and periodicity of orders received from the user sector.

(c) The infrastructural facilities are adequate and these are strengthened as and when need arises.

Statement

The list of collaboration agreements concluded with foreign companies and the completing components imported year-wise for the last five years are shown below :—

S. No.	Item	Collaboration with	Completing components (CKD imported in value) in lakhs				
			1983-84	84-85	85-86	86-87	87-88
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Manufacture of equipment & system for open cast mining and bulk handling equipments.	M/s. Mannesman Demag Baumaschinen Lauchhammer (MDBL) West Germany.	DM 12.5	—	0.3	5.32	—
2.	Manufacture of skip Cage installation in Mines. (Rajpura/Dariba).	M/s. PHB Vereinigte Maschinenfabriken AG West Germany.	—	1.17	0.07	0.04	—
3.	Supply of Engg. for Ramgarh Coal Preparation Plant.	M/s. KHD Humboldt Wedag AG West Germany.	DM 1.64	—	0.68	48.29	—
4.	Manufacture of powered Roof Supports.	M/s. Dowty Mining Equipment Ltd., U.K.	Pound 1.91	1.73	17.19	—	0.9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	Manufacture of Ranging Drum Shearers (AB-16)	M/s. Amderson, Strathclyde PLC. U.K.	Pound 0.21	0.25	16.49	—	10.94
6.	Supply of knowhow for Road Headers Dint Headers.	M/s. DOSCO Overseas Enggg. Ltd. U.K.	Pound 7.01	2.01	13.31	5.93	—

Closure of Mahabir Opencast Project Under E.C.L.

10364. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mahabir Opencast Project under the Eastern Coalfields Limited was closed in the year 1979;

(b) if so, whether the machinery purchased for this project at a substantial cost could be utilised in other projects;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the extent of loss suffered by the company due to failure of this project; and

(e) whether any responsibility has been fixed and if so, the details of action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Mahabir Opencast Project started in 1975-76, had to be closed in 1979-80 after incurring total capital expen-

diture of Rs. 18.28 crores due to very adverse geo-mining conditions. Loss due to the closure of this project has been negligible. Out of a total investment of Rs. 18.28 crores, plant-machinery, furniture, vehicles etc. of Mahabir Opencast Project amounting to Rs. 18.21 crores have been utilised for other projects. Only Rs.67,000/- spent on mine development and land acquisition has gone un-utilised partially as about 5 lakh tonnes of coal was extracted before the closure of the project.

No individual has been found to be responsible for the losses due to the closure of the project as per the investigation report.

Low power TV transmitters at Osmanabad

10365. SHRI ARVIND TULSHI KAMBLE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of low power transmitters to be installed in Maharashtra in near future;

(b) whether Government propose to install a low power transmitter at Osmanabad also; and

(c) if so, the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) Three low power (100 W) TV transmitters (including one at Osmanabad) and two TV transposers are envisaged to be set up in Maharashtra during the remainder part of the Seventh Plan period.

(c) TV service was originally envisaged to be provided to Osmanabad (as also to a number of other places in the country) by shifting an existing transmitter on its replacement by a high power TV transmitter under the Seventh Plan. Under this arrangement, it would have been possible to install the transmitter at Osmanabad and at other such locations only towards the end of the Seventh Plan period. However, taking note of the need for extending TV service to Osmanabad and other such locations earlier than could have been possible under the aforesaid arrangement, a new scheme has been recently included, in the Seventh Plan of Doordarshan for purchase of additional transmitters for installation at these places. Orders for the required equipment have been placed on the manufacturers and site for the proposed TV transmitter at Osmanabad has been taken over.

[Translation]

Opening of Post Offices in Uttar Pradesh

10366. **SHRI NIRMAL KHATTRI :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of post offices opened in Uttar Pradesh during the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) the norms laid down for opening the post offices;

(c) the number of post offices proposed to be opened in each district of Uttar Pradesh during the remaining period of current Five Year Plan; and

(d) the names of places in Faizabad and Barabanki districts of Uttar Pradesh where post offices have been opened during the years 1985, 1986, 1987 and upto March, 1988?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS : (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) 334.

(b) The information is furnished in the statement given below.

(c) The district-wise targets have not yet been finalised.

(d) During the period 1-4-1985 to 31-3-1988 five new post offices were opened in Faizabad district and 17 in Barabanki district. The names of these post offices are being ascertained and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Liberalised guidelines for opening of Post Offices in rural areas introduced with effect from 19-11-1987.

1. Having regard to the Seventh Plan target of 6,000 new post offices in the rural sector, bulk of which has to be achieved during the remaining two Annual Plans 1988-89 and 1989-90, the Postal Services Board have decided that proposals for opening of branch post offices in rural areas will henceforth be regulated according to the following guidelines.

(i) A group of villages constituting a single gram panchayat will be eligible for a post office provided that (a) the aggregate population group of villages is not less than 3000 in normal rural areas and 1500 in Hilly, backward and tribal areas and (b) there is no other post office within the group.

(ii) The post office will normally be opened at the headquarter village of the gram panchayat. If such a village falls within 3 kms. of an existing post office, the post office

may be opened in another suitable village within the same gram panchayat which fulfills the distance condition.

- (iii) The 3 kms. restriction can be relaxed in hilly areas in cases where such relaxation is warranted by special circumstances.
- (iv) The minimum anticipated revenue will be 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of the cost in normal rural areas and 15 per cent of the cost in hilly, tribal and backward areas.

2. Classification of hilly, backward and tribal areas will be made according to the following criteria :

Hilly areas :

- (i) "Special Category States", namely, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh & Mizoram.
- (ii) Districts/Blocks/Talukas in other States or Union Territories identified by the Planning Commission as hill areas for purposes of Hill Areas Development Programme (HADP).

Tribal areas :

- (i) States/Union Territories which have tribal population exceeding 50 per cent of the total population namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Lakshadweep, Nagaland, Meghalaya, and Mizoram.
- (ii) Districts/Blocks/Sub divisions/Tehsils/Villages in other States/Union Territories Identified Tribal Development Programme (ITDP).

Backward areas :

- (iii) Areas identified by the State Government for implementation of the Backward Areas Development Programme under the Seventh Plan (Village and Small Industries sector).

In view of the continuing ban on creation of posts, proposals for opening of new branch offices will be submitted by the Department of Posts to the Ministry of Finance for grant of exemption.

3. Instructions have been issued to all Heads of Circles to consult Hon'ble Members of Parliament in regard to opening of new post offices and give due and urgent consideration to proposals recommended by them in the light of the aforesaid norms.

Allotment of Sheds in Mongolpuri and Industrial Plots in Narela by DSIDC

10367. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi State Industrial Development Corporation (DSIDC) invited applications in 1987 for allotment of sheds (S.F.S.) in Mongolpuri and industrial plots in Narela;

(b) whether reservation for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes was made for both the places;

(c) whether 15 per cent reservation was made for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in Mongolpuri;

(d) whether there was no reservation for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes for Narela but persons belonging to Scheduled Castes Tribe have also applied;

(e) the reasons for not making reservations for Narela when such a reservations was made for Mongolpuri;

(f) the number of applications received for these places, separately and number of applications received from Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes separately;

(g) whether allotment will be made to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes people on priority basis; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. The reservation for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes to the extent of 15 per cent was made only in the scheme of allotment of sheds at Mongolpuri.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Narela Industrial Complex is a project being undertaken by the DSIDC as a developing agency of the Delhi Administration. While deciding the allotment policy for the project, the reservations for any category was not kept by the Executive Council of Delhi Administration because only high-tech. industries were proposed to be established in the area.

(f) The number of applications received is as under :—

	Total	SC	ST
Mangolpuri	58	1	—
Narela Indl. Complex	3470	47	2

(g) and (h). Delhi Administration is seized of the matter.

[English]

Shut down of Cachar Plant of Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited

10368. SHRI SUDARSAN DAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited situated at Panchgram, Cachar, Assam due to go on commercial operation from 1 April, 1988 had declared 'shut down' on 4 March, 1988;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether six or more very costly electric motors have been missing from the

restricted mill area of the Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken to trace out the missing electric motors?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (b). The production had to be stopped due to break-down in Continuous Digester.

(c) to (e). Six numbers of electric motors valued at approximately Rs.50,000/- only were found missing from their installed positions in the respective plants during the month of March, 1988. The matter was reported to C.I.S.F. posted at the plant and a FIR has been lodged with the local police.

Cement Import

10369. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANI-GRAHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are importing cement;

(b) if so, the names of the countries and other details indicating quantity and value of cement imported during the last three years; and

(c) to what extent the import of cement has an effect on domestic production of cement ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) In view of easy availability of cement, no fresh import has been authorised by the Government since the financial year 1986-87 except for certain special varieties of cement to meet specific demands from particular end user. Against the decision to import 5 lakh tonnes in 1985-86, bulk of it was imported that same year and the balance during 1986-87,

(b) The details of cement imported during the last 3 years through the STC who were the canalising agency, are as under :

Year	Quantity (tonnes)	Value (Rs.)	Country
<i>(i) Ordinary Portland Cement (OPC) :</i>			
1985-86	3.29 lakh	24.82 crores	Poland, GDR, DPRK, Czechoslovakia, Romania.
1986-87	1.77 lakh	10.34 crores	Indonesia, DPRK, Czechoslovakia, Poland.
1987-88	—	Nil	—
<i>(ii) Rapid Hardening Portland Cement (RHPC)</i>			
1985-86	450	7.65 lakh	Japan, U.K.
1986-87	537.500	10.17 lakh	Japan, U.K., West Germany
1987-88 (Provisional)	582	25.76 lakh	Japan, U.K., West Germany

(c) Import of cement, presently being confined to special varieties only has no adverse effect on the domestic production.

[*Translation*]

**Cases of employees pending with
K.V.I.C.**

10370. SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of the employees of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission and its sales centres pending with the Commission for decisions;

(b) the time since when these cases are pending with it;

(c) whether the Commission has taken any effective action on the cases pending; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

World Bank assistance to ONGC

10371. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has sought World Bank assistance for implementing some of its projects;

(b) if so, the names of the projects for which the ONGC has sought assistance; and

(c) the details of the funds provided by the World Bank to the ONGC for implementing those projects ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The names of the projects and the amount of World Bank Loans are as under :

<i>Name of the Project</i>	<i>Amount of World Bank Loan (US \$ Million)</i>
(i) Krishna-Godavari Exploration Project	165.5
(ii) South Bassein Gas Development Project	139.3
(iii) Cambay Basin Petroleum Project	242.5
(iv) Western Gas Development Project	295.0

Production of crude oil by OIL

10372. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the crude oil production of the Oil India Ltd. declined in 1986-87 and 1987-88;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the target set for the year 1988-89; and

(d) the effective steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Oil India Ltd. to increase crude oil production in 1988-89 and thereafter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reasons for decline in production of crude oil can be attributed mainly to the following factors :

- (i) frequent bandhs and strikes and general disturbed industrial climate in the North Eastern region.
- (ii) unanticipated reservoir and production problems in Jorajan oil fields.
- (iii) reduced production from ageing oil fields of Oil India Limited (OIL).
- (iv) inadequate gas compression facilities.
- (v) delay in delivery and commissioning problems with BHEL drilling rigs.

(c) and (d). The steps taken/being taken by OIL to meet the revised target of 2.75 MTs of crude oil production in 1988-89 include :

- (i) augmentation of gas compression facilities.
- (ii) optimisation of artificial lift operations.
- (iii) optimisation of surface handling facilities.
- (iv) accelerated workover operations through Man-management contract.
- (v) well stimulation by hydraulic fracturing.
- (vi) prioritisation of development drilling programme for satellite fields.
- (vii) remedial action in Jorajan oilfields.

Popularity of Hindi TV programmes in non-Hindi speaking areas

10373. SHRI P. A. ANTONY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been made about the popularity of Hindi television programmes in non-Hindi speaking areas; and

(b) if so, the details of the findings of these surveys ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Central Public Sector investment in Sikkim

10374. SHRIMATI D K. BHANDARI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given on 5.4.1988 to Unstarred Question No. 5702 regarding Central Public Sector Investment and state :

(a) whether it is a fact that neither any investment has been made so far in public sector in Sikkim nor it is proposed to be made during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) Investment in terms of gross block of the public sector units located in Sikkim amounted to Rs. 0.55 crores as on 31.3.1987. There is no separate provision for public sector units for Sikkim in the industry and mineral sector in the Seventh Five Year Plan.

(b) and (c). Investment decision of Central Government industrial and commercial undertakings are mainly based on technological considerations.

Purchase of woollen dress materials by BHEL

10375. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, Hardwar/Delhi has purchased a good quantity of woollen dress materials during 1987-88 for its staff/workers uniform;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the total quantity of purchase, rate per metre, total amount paid to the selling unit and the name of the selling unit,

(c) whether any complaint about its quality has been received; and

(d) when the next purchase of the same kind of material is likely to be made ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) About 36,000 metres of woollen dress material was purchased by BHEL units at Hardwar and Delhi for supply of uniforms to the staff/workers.

(b) The details are given below in the statement.

(c) The dress material has been accepted by the staff/workers and by and large there have been no complaints about the quality.

(d) As per the policy of the Company, woollen dress is to be provided to attendants, sweepers, drivers, etc., once in two years.

Statement

BHEL Unit	Quantity	Rate	Amount	Source of purchase
1. Hardwar	35000 M (Approx.)	Rs. 106/M	Rs. 36.78 lakhs (Approx.)	M/s. British India Corpn., Kanpur (A Govt. of India Enterprises)
2. Delhi	940 M (Approx.)	Rs. 138.50/M	Rs. 1.30 lakhs (Approx.)	M/s. Shree Woollen Agency, Delhi. Authorised agents of M/s. Dhariwal Woollen Mills (A Govt. of India Enterprises)

No Objection Certificate from DDA
for Electric connections at
business sites

10376. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be
pleased to state :

(a) whether it is necessary to produce
"No Objection Certificate" from the Delhi
Development Authority to get electric
connections at business sites allotted by
them;

(b) whether Government are aware that
Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi zonal office of
DESU has provided electricity connections
at business sites without N.O.C. from
DDA;

(c) whether some cases are pending
with them for want of N.O.C. from D.D.A.
for a long time; and

(d) if so, the reasons of discrimination
for basic amenities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE
MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI
SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b).
According to DESU, non-domestic lighting
connections are provided on the business

sites allotted by the DDA on the basis of
the certificate of entitlement for electricity
issued by the DDA or on the basis of
allotment/possession letter. However, where
a prospective consumer is not in a position
to furnish such documentary proofs, a no
objection certificate of the DDA is insisted
upon for giving the connections. In the
approved commercial areas such connections
are sanctioned with reference to the land use !

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise, in view of the
answer to a and b above.

Deposit Insurance Fund

10377. PROF. MADHU DANDA-
VATE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY
be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that many
private sector companies have failed to
honour their commitments to pay interest
and honour timely refunds of deposits;
and

(b) if so, whether Government propose
to set up "Deposit Insurance Fund" to
protect the interests of small depositors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL

DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) Government has received complaints regarding failure of certain companies to repay deposits on the date of maturity with interest.

(b) There is no such proposal.

Frequency of "Chitramala" programme

10378. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the frequency of "Chitramala" programme has been decreased;

(b) if so, the reasons for reducing its frequency; and

(c) whether the frequency will be increased in view of its popularity ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) There has been no decrease in the frequency of telecast of Chitramala programme for the last about three years.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present, there is no such proposal.

Setting up of electronic exchange at Una in Himachal Pradesh

10379. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the latest progress in the setting up of an Electronic Exchange (NEAX) at Una in Himachal Pradesh and the introduction of STD between Una and Shimla as on date; and

(b) the likely date by which the exchange would be installed and the STD in-

troduced alongwith estimated cost of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The building is nearing completion and electrical work is in progress. STD will be introduced after automatisisation of the existing exchange.

(b) The exchange is likely to be commissioned during 1988-89 and STD planned during 1989-90. The cost of project estimate for installation of NEAX exchange along with provision of STD is Rs. 32.5 lakhs approximately.

Setting up of Newsprint Factory

10380. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to reply given on 20 October 1982 to unstarred Question No. 2748 regarding cancellation of licence of Newsprint Factory at Neilla in H P. and state :

(a) whether any other party/business House has since approached Union Government for industrial licence for the setting up of a newsprint factory at Neilla in Bilaspur district of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to set up the factory in public sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) No, Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present there is no proposal to set up any newsprint factory in Central Public Sector at Neilla in Bilaspur District of Himachal Pradesh.

**World Bank loan for renovation
of thermal and hydel projects**

10381. **SHRI YASHWANTRAO
GADAKH PATIL** : Will the Minister of
ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Power Finance Corporation is considering to seek World Bank loan for renovation of thermal and hydel projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Corporation has drawn up priority areas for assistance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). Power Finance Corporation has not yet submitted any proposal for seeking assistance from the World Bank for financing renovation of thermal and hydel projects.

(c) and (d). The priority areas for assistance identified by the Corporation, include among others, such thermal/hydel projects which can be commissioned early in the VIIIth Plan, renovation and modernisation of power plants and schemes for augmentation and improvement of the transmission and distribution network.

**Telecast of regional feature films
by Delhi Doordarshan**

10382. **SHRI R.M. BHOYE** : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to telecast regional feature films on Delhi Doordarshan with Hindi subtitles; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI

H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. All regional language feature films telecast on Delhi Doordarshan are offered to Doordarshan for telecast by the producers/TV right holders. The prints of the films with sub-titles are also supplied by them. The producers go in for sub-titling in English with a view not only to telecast on Doordarshan but also to meet the needs for international circulation.

A gist of the film, however, is given in Hindi by the announcer before telecast.

**Public telephone system costing
less than Rs. 2,000/**

10383. **SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK** : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a public telephone system that costs less than Rs. 2,000/- is the Diwali gift the Indian Telephone Industries Limited has decided to present to the nation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Stock of Molasses and Alcohol in
sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh**

10384. **DR. B. L. SHAILESH** : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a glut situation is likely to develop in Uttar Pradesh for alcohol and molasses in the domestic market during the current alcohol year as a result of huge stocks piling up with the sugar mills;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government for authorising more export of alcohol; an 'p

(c) if not, how it is proposed to meet the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) Government have received reports about heavy surpluses of Molasses and Alcohol in the sugar factories and distilleries.

(b) and (c) Export of Alcohol will be permitted to the extent there is net overall surplus in the country and the exports are viable.

Transportation of crude in North-Eastern region

10385. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any representations have received been by his Ministry from the Oil and Natural Gas Commission for help to improve the transportation of crude in the North-Eastern region;

(b) whether difficulties in transportation of crude has caused increased import of crude oil during 1986 and 1987;

(c) if so, the details of imports made on this account during the above period;

(d) what steps have been taken to improve transportation of crude in the North-Eastern region; and

(e) the existing production capacity of the ONGC and the corresponding transportation and refining capacity ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) ONGC had written to the Government regarding pipeline expansion in the North Eastern Region.

(b) and (c). The capacity of the crude pipeline in the North Eastern Region is con-

sidered sufficient to take care of the present level of production. Therefore, the question of increased imports due to pipeline constraint during 1986 and 1987 do not arise.

(d) Oil India Limited is in the process of augmenting the capacity of the main crude pipeline in Assam to 5.5 MTPA. Action has also been initiated for further expansion of the pipeline capacity to match the increase in production in future.

(e) The production of crude oil by ONGC and Oil India Limited in the Eastern region during 1987-88 was 2.75 and 2.45 million tonnes respectively. The main crude pipeline in Assam has an installed capacity of 5.2 million tonnes. An additional 0.5 million tonnes is also being transported to Digboi Refinery through a separate pipeline. The capacity of the Eastern Region refineries is 6 million tonnes.

Clearance of projects in Andhra Pradesh

10386. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY :
SHRI V. TULSIRAM :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number and other details of industrial projects from Andhra Pradesh which were cleared during the last two years;

(b) the number of industries which are awaiting sanction and budgetary support from Union Government; and

(c) the industries which are likely to be set up in Andhra Pradesh with Non-resident Indians participation, with World Bank assistance and with foreign technical collaboration separately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) 223 letters of intent were issued during

the calendar year 1986 and 1987 for setting up of various industries enumerated in the First Schedule of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. 167 of these letters of intent were granted for setting up of 'New Undertakings', 32 for Manufacture of New Articles', 22 for carrying out 'Substantial Expansion' in the existing undertakings and 2 for 'New Article/Substantial Expansion'.

(b) As on 5.5.88, 64 industrial licence applications received from various undertakings/parties for setting up of units in Andhra Pradesh were being processed in the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals in the Ministry of Industry.

(c) During 1986 and 1987, 19 letters of intent/SIA Registrations have been issued to non-resident Indians for setting up new industrial units in the State of Andhra Pradesh. These approvals are for manufacture of particle board, disposable baby diapers, dot matrix printers, non-impact printers, cotton/synthetic/balenced textile yarn, BOPP, mini-computers/micro processor based systems, modems, PVC floor tiles etc. It is difficult to indicate the details of projects that might be set up in the State with World Bank assistance/foreign technical collaboration, as such details are not maintained centrally.

Drilling in Krishna Godavari Basin

10387. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether only five rigs are presently working in the Krishna-Godavari basin and that only eight onshore wells yielded gas out of 17 wells drilled so far;

(b) when was the work relating to the linking of Narasapur 3 and 5 and Razole 1 and 2 wells with total capacity of 1.4 lakh cubic metres per day was expected to be completed;

(c) whether there is a hope to find deposits of oil in Kaikallur near Vijayawada as good as that produced in Ankaleshwar wells;

(d) the amounts so far spent and proposed to be spent in the above basin;

(e) the details of the incentives so far offered to the consumers; and

(f) whether the price of gas at Rs. 900/- per 1000 cubic metre is proposed to be reduced ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) Presently five rigs are working in onland and two rigs in offshore areas of Krishna-Godavari basin.

Out of 32 wells drilled in onshore, only 13 have proved to be hydrocarbon bearing (gas 12 and oil 1).

(b) The work is likely to be completed by June, 1988.

(c) The Kaikalur prospect, where oil has already been discovered, is still at the exploratory stage. The potential of the prospect will be known only after it is fully delineated.

(d) Upto 31st March, 1987, an amount of about Rs. 600 crores has been spent in the basin. The provision for 1987-88 (RE) was Rs. 96.32 crores. During current year, it is proposed to spend Rs. 88.78 crores.

(e) As against the gas price of Rs. 1400 + taxes per thousand cubic metres, consumers in this basin have been offered, the incentive of concessional price of Rs. 900 + taxes, per thousand cubic metres, for initial two years period of contract.

(f) No, Sir.

Power situation in Northern Region

10388. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Government have received some protest note from the regional board of the All India Manufacturers Organisation (AIMO) regarding deteriorating power situation in the Northern region; and

(b) if so, whether board has made certain suggestion in this regard and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) The All India Manufacturers Organisation had issued a press release on 9.2.1988 about the power shortage in the Northern Region, particularly in Delhi and Haryana. The AIMO had suggested, inter alia, that a nuclear power station may be set up in Haryana keeping in view the long term power needs in the Region.

Assessment of power generation

10389. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have assessed the power deficit in the country and the efficient use of power by industries to save over 6 per cent of the same through such usage;

(b) if so, the assessment made thereof and the measures proposed to bridge the gap between the demand and supply;

(c) the steps taken to reduce the cost of power generation, transmission losses and transportation costs;

(d) whether the State Electricity Boards are able to help the statutory returns of 3 per cent on expensive equipment used for generation and transmission-distribution; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (c). An assessment has been made of the power deficit in the country. For 1988-89 the overall power deficit in the country is anticipated to the order of 8.7%. Efficient use of power by the industrial sector, on the long run, is expected, to yield a saving of over 6% in energy consumption.

2. Steps being taken on a continued basis viz., expediting commissioning of new capacity, optimum utilisation of existing capacity, implementation of centrally sponsored Renovation and Modernisation Programme for thermal stations, reduction in Transmission and Distribution losses, implementation of demand management and energy conservation measures are expected to bridge the gap between power/energy availability and demand.

3. Improved production and overall productivity of various activities in power generation, transmission and distribution through measures indicated above is expected to result in cost reduction of power in generation, transmission and distribution areas.

(d) and (e). The rate of return earned by SEBs in 1985-86 inclusive of subsidy, if any, taken into account in the Accounts, of the Board and worked out on the capital base as stipulated in the Electricity (Supply)

Act, 1948 (as amended) is shown in the Statement below. The SEBs of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Meghalaya show rate of return exceeding 3% surplus of the net fixed assets at the beginning of the year as stipulated in the Electricity (Supply) Act.

As per the Action Plan submitted by the State Electricity Boards it is expected that mostly all the State Electricity Boards will achieve 3% surplus by the end of 1989-90.

Statement

Rate of Return

(Percentage-1985-1986)

(Rs. in crores)

S. No.	SEBs	Rate of Return	Subsidy provided in the A/c
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3.7	24.0
2.	Bihar	(11.1)*	50.6
3.	Gujarat	3.5	107.7
4.	Haryana	(5.6)*	20.0
5.	Himachal Pradesh	19.4	—
6.	Karnataka	7.8	33.6
7.	Kerala	7.8	—
8.	Madhya Pradesh	4.3	64.6
9.	Maharashtra	2.8	102.4
10.	Orissa	(1.1)*	12.5
11.	Punjab	1.6	124.5
12.	Rajasthan	(3.4)*	15.0
13.	Tamil Nadu	8.5	210.8
14.	Uttar Pradesh (18%)	0.2	198.2
15.	West Bengal (10%)	(3.2)*	20.9
16.	Assam	(41.8)*	24.9
17.	Meghalaya	3.0	—
	Total	1.4	1009.10

Rate of return on capital base as prescribed Electricity (Supply) Act.

*Figure given in brackets are deficits.

[Translation]

Procurement policy of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited

13390. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Plea for proper procurement policy of M.T.N.L." appearing in "The Hindustan Times" dated 24 February, 1988;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to take some effective steps in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Government find nothing wrong with the policy of procurement of stores by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam through competitive tenders and awarding

the contracts as per laid down procedures to suppliers taking into account rates quoted, quality and their capability to supply the stores in time. As regards, the tender for supply of copper coated steel drop wire, it was a developmental order since the technology for this type of drop wire was to be developed first before supply. Therefore, the supplier took time to supply the required stores have been placed on any Noida firm, for supply of drop wire accessories.

[English]

**Setting up of power stations
with modern technology**

10391. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Tatas have set up a 5 MW power station with a modern technology where coal with 60 per cent ash content will be used ;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up more power stations with this or any other better technology where the vast ash content high reserves which are not fully used could be utilised and more power generated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c). M/s. Tata Iron and Steel Company have set up a 10 MW captive power unit at Dhanbad to operate on coal with ash content upto 60 percent. The unit is based on fluidised bed technology, which has also been selected by some State Electricity Boards and public sector undertakings for power generation using high ash coals.

**Closure of Bombay plant of Union
Carbide India Ltd**

10392. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for the closure of the Bombay plant of Union Carbide India Limited;

(b) whether Government of Maharashtra has directed to relocate the plant outside Bombay as it is engaged in hazardous chemical operations; and

(c) if so, what is the present position ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) to (c). The Government of Maharashtra advised M/s Union Carbide India Ltd. in October 1985 that their Chambur plant had been identified as one of the hazardous units and they were asked to relocate this facility.

In April 1986 there was a shut-down of the plant to carry-out normal maintenance work etc. Subsequently the company gave notice for the closure of this unit under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 but the same was rejected by the Government of Maharashtra in public interest.

**Construction of Tehri Project by
Soviet Union (USSR)**

10393. DR. B. L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Soviet Union has agreed to take up the construction of the Tehri Project on the Bhagirathi and Bhilangana rivers flowing from the Himalayas; and

(b) if so, whether Government will give a re-thinking to this project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. There has been no reason necessitating a rethinking on this Project.

Allotment of petrol pumps

10394. **SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH**: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether oil companies obtain No Objection Certificate and Storage licence for installation of petrol pumps after the dealers are appointed and land is acquired by them;

(b) whether in case the company fails to get the N.O.C. etc. or the land is acquired by Government in the public interest after the appointment of a dealer, he is allowed to purchase another site or an alternative dealership is given to compensate him;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) The oil companies issue a Letter of Intent to the candidate recommended the Oil Selection Board; this candidate has to arrange a site whereas the application for grant of 'No Objection Certificate' and Storage Licence is normally made by the oil company on behalf of the LOI holder;

(b) and (c). In case the Oil Company is unable to obtain NOC for the site, the Selected Candidate is given an opportunity to arrange an alternative site. In a case where after obtaining NOC and prior to commissioning of the dealership, the land is acquired by the Government for any reason, the Oil Company concerned normally allows the candidate to arrange a suitable alternative site within the same location for development of the dealership.

If the land is acquired after the appointment/commissioning of the dealership by a Government authority, resitement of the dealership at alternative location within the same town, in accordance with the procedures laid down in this regard by the oil

industry, can be considered by the oil company concerned;

(d) Does not arise in view of (b) and (c) above.

Phased delicensing of Industries

10395. **SHRI P. M. SAYEED**: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been invited to the paper prepared by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) entitled, "Towards efficient production" which contains suggestions for radical policy changes in industry;

(b) the reaction of Government thereto, particularly to the suggestions pertaining to 'phased delicensing' of industries;

(c) whether Government have plans to ensure modernisation of industries, schemes for technology upgradation of all industries and provision for foreign collaboration and acquisition of technology; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Delicensing of industries as a measure of liberalisation of licensing policy and procedures is a continuous process. More industries will be delicensed as and when it is considered feasible.

(c) and (d). A scheme of simplified procedure for endorsement of increased capacity upto 49% of the licensed capacity, arising out of modernisation, replacement or renovation of plant and machinery is already in operation from January 1986. Where induction of modern foreign technology is considered essential in national interest, foreign technical and financial collaborations are permitted more freely.

Upgradation of artists in AIR

10396. **SHRI UTTAM RATHOD** : Will the Minister of **INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of artists (musicians) of AIR who were upgraded by the Director General, A.I.R. under his discretionary powers during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what were the recommendations of the Music Audition Board after assessing the performance in the above cases ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b). The Director General, All India Radio has the discretion to upgrade an artist whose performance is considered to be of outstanding quality and above the standard expected of an artist in that grade. During the last two years this discretionary power has been exercised by the Director General, All India Radio to upgrade 3 artists.

(c) The recommendation of the Music Audition Board in respect of two artists was that they were not fit for upgradation and in the third case that the artist should be weeded out.

Subsidised Import

10397. **PROF. K.V. THOMAS** : Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY** be pleased to state :

(a) whether domestic industries face competition due to subsidised imports; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) It is presumed that the reference is to import of capital goods with which the Ministry of Industry is concerned. C.I.F. cost of capital goods are not subsidised by the Ministry of Industry. However the interest of domestic industries are safeguarded through the mechanism of indigenous clearance and tariff structure.

(b) Does not arise.

Indian Convention Promotion Bureau

10398. **SHRI S. B. SIDNAL** : Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Convention Promotion Bureau has been formed with the assistance of the travel industry and Tourism Department to promote international conventions in the country;

(b) if so, the other main features of this body;

(c) the date by which this body is likely to submit its report; and

(d) the details of the international conventions that will be encouraged in our country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. As reported by the Department of Tourism, the main objectives of India Convention Promotion Bureau are :

(i) To promote India as a venue for international conference.

(ii) To provide the data bank on the conference industry.

(iii) To project India through extensive advertising and publicity as a great conference destination.

(iv) To encourage executives in India to learn about conference management through various seminars.

(v) To seek affiliation with other world bodies having similar aims and objectives.

(b) Other salient features are three categories of membership :

Category 'A' : Would comprise the Department of Tourism, Government of India, National Air Carriers, Hoteliers, Travel Agencies, Tour Operators, International Congress Centres and any other organisation duly approved by the Department of Tourism, Government of India.

Category 'B' : Would comprise—State Tourism Development Corporations, Airport authorities, Trade Fair Authority of India, etc.

Category 'C' : Would comprise—Travel Agents Association of India, Indian Association of Tour Operators, Federation of Hotels and Restaurant Associations of India duly approved by Government of India.

(c) India Convention Promotion Bureau has not been asked to submit any report. However, from time to time, they are expected to advise the Ministry of Tourism on measures which need to be taken to promote India as a destination for international conferences.

(d) Conference/convention segment has emerged as an important component of international tourism. Conference delegates are big spenders. It is expected that the setting up of India Convention Promotion Bureau would bring in more conferences to India.

Coal output target

10399. SHRI S. M. GURADDI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether coal output target has been fixed for the year 1988-89;

(b) if so, the target fixed for 1988-

(c) to what extent it will be more than the target set in 1987-88;

(d) the total target achieved during 1987-88; and

(e) what efforts are being made to improve the target in 1988-89 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Target of coal production for the year 1988-89 is 196.28 million tonnes.

(c) The target for the year 1988-89 is higher, as compared to the target for the year 1987-88, by 12.78 million tonnes which represents about 7 per cent rise.

(d) Actual production of coal during the year 1987-88 was of the order of 179.75 million tonnes against a target of 183.50 million tonnes.

(e) The target for the year 1988-89 represents a growth of more than 9 per cent over the actual production of coal during the year 1987-88.

New power stations in Southern States

10400. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received some suggestions from the Central Electricity Authority for giving priority to the Southern States in respect of new power stations;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the reaction of Government to these suggestions; and

(d) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE

MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (d). The States in Southern Region have already harnessed their hydel resources to a large extent. The lignite resources available in Tamil Nadu are also being utilised to the maximum extent possible. To further increase the availability of power projects with a total capacity of about 2371 MW will be inducted in the Southern Region in the remaining two years of the Seventh Plan. The sanctioned/ongoing capacity under implementation in the Region for giving benefits in the Eighth and Ninth Plan periods is about 6503 MW. This includes the setting up of an Atomic Power Station at Kaiga in Karnataka.

Ashok Paper Mills

10401. **SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ashok Paper Mills unit at Darbhanga remains closed;

(b) whether it is a fact that a public assurance had been given in 1984 that the unit would resume production soon;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is no formal lock out or strike;

(d) if so, the reasons for the continued discontinuance of production; and

(e) the steps taken for early resumption of production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (e). Ashok Paper Mills has two units, one at Jogighopa, Assam and the other at Rameshwarnagar, Bihar. The units are lying closed from March, 1983 and October, 1982 respectively, on account of problems relating to finance, management, raw material, power availability, infrastructural constraints etc. On a reference made by the Company, the Board

for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction had declared Ashok Paper Mills as a Sick Industrial Company in terms of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, and has initiated necessary proceedings under the Act.

The Financial Institutions have commissioned a report on the division of assets and liabilities of Jogighopa and Rameshwarnagar units. Reports on the revival and rehabilitation of the two units have also been commissioned by the respective State Governments. Consultations with State Governments have not yet concluded.

[Translation]

TV transmitters in Ranikhet and Kausani

10402. **SHRI HARISH RAWAT:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints in regard to the delay in setting up of low power TV transmission centres in Ranikhet and Kausani; and

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in setting up of these centres and the remedial measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Requests have been received from time to time for early installation and commissioning of TV transmitters at Ranikhet and Kausani.

(b) The Seventh Plan of Doordarshan provides, inter alia, for the establishment of a number of TV transmitters. These are being set up in a phased manner depending upon the annual allocation of plan resources, availability of the required equipment and infrastructural facilities at various places. Installation and commissioning of the TV transmitters at Ranikhet and Kausani is also governed by these factors.

**Setting up of colour film unit in
Almora, Uttar Pradesh**

10403. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have asked the Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Ltd. to explore the possibilities of setting up a project for the production of colour films in Almora district in Uttar Pradesh with the assistance of State Government;

(b) whether talks have been held with State Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken to start the work of setting up a colour film unit in this district in 1988 ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) to (c). In 1981 a letter of intent was granted to Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Limited for setting up a Project for the manufacture of colour films. Due to financial constraints, the project could not be taken up in the 7th Plan and the letter of intent lapsed in 1986.

(d) A letter of intent has, however, been granted to the Pradeshiya Industrial and Investment Corporation of U.P. (PICUP) to set up a project for the manufacture of cine films, industrial and medical films, photographic paper and graphic and other films in Almora District of U.P.

New power projects in Uttar Pradesh

10404. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting up some new power projects in Uttar Pradesh during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the names of such power projects;

(c) whether these projects also include Dhauliganga Phase-I Hydel Power Project; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay in the implementation of this project and the remedial steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). The following power projects in Uttar Pradesh are targetted for commissioning during the remaining period of the 7th Five Year Plan :

Sl. No.	Name of the Project
State Sector	
1.	Unchahar Thermal Station Units 1-2
2.	Tanda Thermal Station Units 2-4
3.	Maneri Bhali Hydel Project Stage II.
Central Sector	
1.	Auriya Combined Cycle Gas Turbines.
2.	Narora Atomic Power Plant.

(c) and (d). Dhauliganga Hydro Electric Project (Stage I) has been found to be techno-economically in order by the Central Electricity Authority. The scheme will be formally cleared by the CEA and considered for sanction subject to clearances from the environmental and defence angles and compliance with the provisions of Section 29 of the Electricity (Supply) Act. However, pre-construction activities on the project are going ahead.

**Central Public Sector Undertakings
in Uttar Pradesh**

10405. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Central Public Sector Undertakings in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the total number of employees working in each of those undertakings ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (b). The names of Central Public Sector Undertakings with their registered offices located in Uttar Pradesh and the total number of employees working in each of these as on 31.3.1987 are given below in the statement.

Statement

Sl. No.	Enterprises	No. of employees
1.	Oil and Natural Gas Commission	43349
2.	Scooters India Ltd.	3161
3.	Bharat Pumps and Compressors Ltd.	1979
4.	NTC (Uttar Pradesh) Ltd.	19161
5.	The Elgin Mills Company Ltd.	11329
6.	Triveni Structural Ltd.	2084
7.	The British India Corporation Ltd.	7455
8.	Artificial Limbs Mfg. Corpn. of India Ltd	574
9.	U.P. Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Company Ltd.	372
10.	Indian Medicines Pharmaceuticals Corpn. Ltd.	110
11.	National Handlooms Development Corpn. Ltd	128
12.	Brushware Limited	61
13.	Bharat Yantra Nigam Ltd.	1
14.	Cawnpore Textiles Ltd.	3114
15.	Bharat Leather Corporation Ltd.	205
16.	Tannery and Footwear Corpn. of India Ltd.	2359

[English]

Setting up of Paper Mills in Orissa

10406. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Orissa has approached Union Government for setting up more paper mills

in that State during the Seventh Five Year Plan period ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL

DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No specific proposal has been received from the Government of Orissa for setting up more paper mills in the State during the Seventh Five Year Plan Period based on forest raw materials. Moreover, manufacture of writing, printing and wrapping paper from agricultural residues, wastes hand bagasse has been de-licensed.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Improvements in Telephone System in Kerala

10407. **PROF. K. V. THOMAS:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the improvements proposed to be made in the telephone system in Kerala during the coming five years?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): The services of the present telecom systems in Kerala Circle are being monitored under Mission-Better Communications. For improvement of the services, following objectives have been set:—

- (i) To reduce fault rate
- (ii) To improve call success rate
- (iii) To improve manual trunk service
- (iv) To improve Directory Inquiry service
- (v) To improve special services

Action plan for improvement of all those targets consists of:

- (i) Customer orientation training to staff
- (ii) Replacement of worn out electro-mechanical exchanges
- (iii) Replacement of old telephone instruments
- (iv) Cleaning up and locking of DPs
- (v) Replacement of fault prone overhead lines

- (vi) Replacement of fault prone cables
- (vii) Replacement of worn out drop wires.

Kerala Circle has proposed following development plans during the coming five years:—

- (i) Automatisation of all remaining manual exchanges in Kerala
- (ii) Expansion of MAX-I exchange in Quilon, Kalassery, Palghat, Trichur, Tellicherry and Cannanore,
- (iii) Commissioning of E-10B exchanges at Trivandrum, Quilon Changancherry, Kottayam, Kanjikuzhi, Gandhinagar, Ernakulam, Trichur, Alagappanagar, Cherpu, Ollur, Kunnankulam, Guruvayour, Calicut, Chowghat, Cannanore and Balipatom.
- (iv) New crossbar exchanges proposed to be commissioned at Kasaragod, Kayamkulam, Tiruvalla, Palai, Allappey, Kanjirapally, Shertallai, Thodupuzha, Parur, Chalakudy, Tirur.
- (v) It has been proposed to have optical fibre system between Palghat-Trivandrum.
- (vi) Some of the MAX-III exchanges are proposed to be expanded by Digital ILT and electronic exchanges of medium size.
- (vii) All the inhabited Hexagons in Kerala Circle are proposed to be covered by telephone facility.

Central Salt Cess

10408. **SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the total receipts from the Central Salt Cess, State-wise; and
- (b) the total administrative cost involved in the collection of the Cess?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUS:

TRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). Salt producing States/UTs in the country have been divided into 5 regions for administrative purpose. Each region covers more than one salt producing State/UT. Data regarding receipts from the Central Salt Cess and

administrative cost involved in the collection of the cess is maintained region-wise. State-wise figures are not available.

Requisite information regarding total receipts from the Central Salt Cess and total administrative cost involved in the collection of cess is indicated in the enclosed statements I and II given below.

Statement-I
Cess Collection

Region/Office	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
1. Salt Commissioner's Office, Jaipur	0.35	0.14	0.14	0.05	0.05
2. Dy. Salt Commissioner, Bombay	10.11	10.74	9.25	8.39	8.07
3. Dy. Salt Commissioner, Madras	20.25	22.80	22.99	21.32	28.40
4. Dy. Salt Commissioner, Ahmedabad	87.19	103.12	116.50	114.71	118.26
5. Asstt. Salt Commissioner, Calcutta	2.13	1.93	1.87	1.26	1.31
6. Superintendent of Salt, Jodhpur	16.28	18.86	19.67	12.40	10.87
Total :	136.31	157.59	170.42	158.13	167.56

The administrative regions comprises more than one State.

The States/UT attached to the regions are as follows :

Sl No,	Office	Region	State/UT
1	2	3	4
1.	Supdt. of Salt, Jodhpur	Jodhpur	Rajasthan Himachal Pradesh

1	2	3	4
2.	Dy. Salt Commr., Bombay.	Bombay	Maharashtra Karnataka
3.	Dy. Salt Commr., Madras	Madras	Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh UT Pondicherry (Karikal & Yanam)
4.	Dy. Salt Commr., Ahmedabad	Ahmedabad	Gujarat and U.T. Dju & Daman.
5.	Asstt. Salt Commr., Calcutta.	Calcutta	West Bengal and Orissa.

Statement-II
Cost of Cess Collection

Region/Office	(Figures in lakh of rupees)					
	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	
1. Salt Commissioner's Office, Jaipur	—	—	—	Not available	Not available	
2. Dy. Salt Commissioner, Bombay	4.03	4.90	5.2	-do-	-do-	
3. Dy. Salt Commissioner, Madras	8.70	10.73	11.9	-do-	-do-	
4. Dy. Salt Commissioner, Ahmedabad	1.99	2.16	2.0	-do-	-do-	
5. Asstt. Salt Commissioner, Calcutta	0.51	4.46	0.4	-do-	-do-	
6. Superintendent of Salt, Jodhpur	4.34	4.49	5.0	-do-	-do-	
Total :	19.57	22.74	24.5	-do-	-do-	

The Administrative regions more than one State.

The States/UT attached to the regions are as follows :

1	2	3	4
S. No.	Office	Region	State/UT
1.	Supdt. of Salt, Jodhpur	Jodhpur	Rajasthan Himachal Pradesh

1	2	3	4
2.	Dy. Salt Commr., Bombay	Bombay	Maharashtra Karnataka
3.	Dy. Salt Commr., Madras	Madras	Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh UT Pondicherry (Karikal & Yanam)
4.	Dy. Salt Commr., Ahmedabad.	Ahmedabad	Gujarat and U.T. Diu & Daman
5.	Asstt. Salt Commr., Calcutta.	Calcutta	West Bengal and Orissa

Public sector units running in losses

10409. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the public sector units, the performance of which was not satisfactory and were running in losses during 1986-87 and 1987-88; and

(b) whether any measures have been taken to check this trend ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) Names of the public sector units which have suffered losses during 1986-87 are given at page 58 of Volume-I of Public Enterprises Survey, 1986-87 laid on the Table for the House on 25th February, 1988. Annual Accounts for the financial year 1987-88 of the public enterprises are yet to be finalised.

(b) The details of the steps taken by the Government to improve the working of the public sector undertakings are given at page 179 of Volume-I of the Public Enterprises Survey 1986-87 placed on the Table of the House on 25th February, 1988.

Hike in prices of coal

10410. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering another hike in the prices of coal; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : (a) Government is presently not considering sanction of any increase in the pit head prices of coal to Coal India Limited,

(b) Does not arise.

Development of Western Oil and Gas fields

10411. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE : Will the the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) has plans for development of western offshore oil and gas fields;

(b) whether the ONGC invited tenders for the development of Western Offshore Integrated Development Project, gas lift schemes in north and south Bombay High, Heera gas process platforms and Heera-Uran oil and gas pipelines;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any company has been selected for this purpose;

(e) if so, the details of its name, order value, project completion schedule scope of work involved and benefits to the ONGC in terms of increase in production; and

(f) the expenditure involved in each of the above projects and tentative dates when they are likely to be completed ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The details are as under :

1. Western offshore integrated Development Project :

(a) Procurement of Line-pipes;

(b) Bombay High to Heera Trunk pipeline and associated facilities.

(c) Oil and gas booster complex in Heera field.

(d) Bombay High to Hazira trunk pipeline via Panna and associated facilities.

2. Gas lift schemes for Bombay High field :

- (a) Gas Lift Facilities—Phase-I (Bombay High North).
- (b) Gas Lift Facilities—Phase-II (Bombay High South)
- (c) Gas Process Complex for Bombay High field.

3. Development of Heera Field (Phase-II) :

- (a) Heera Process Complex.
- (b) Heera-Uran trunk pipeline.
- (d) and (e). No, Sir.
- (f) (i) Western Offshore Integrated Development Project (WOIDP) estimated cost of Rs. 833.84 crores. Expected completion 3 years after approval of Government.
- (ii) Gas Lift Bombay High North and South estimated cost Rs. 561.30 crores. Expected completion by November, 1990.
- (iii) Development of Heera Phase-II—estimated cost Rs. 662.03 crores. Expected completion March, 1990.

Modernisation of Industries

10412. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have assigned priorities to industries for the purpose of modernisation;

(b) if so, the categorisation of industries accordingly and the criteria followed in making the categorisation;

(c) whether the industries accorded immediate priority for modernisation would

be able to face competition in international market; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or contemplated in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d). From time to time, certain industries are selected for modernisation programme taking into account various factors including the state of indigenous technology, the need for improving quality and competitiveness. During 1987-88, a special programme of technological upgradation was launched and the following capital goods industries were selected :

“Machine Tools, Power Generating Equipment, Castings and Forgings, Selected industrial Machinery items and Electrical Equipment”.

In the Budget for 1988-89, in order to promote competitiveness and exports concessional duty for import of capital goods has been announced in respect of the following industries :

“Bicycle, Leather, Woollen, Silk, Tea, Garment and Hosiery and Gem and Jewellery”.

In addition, concessional import duty on import of capital goods for the roller bearing industry has also been granted in order to improve quality and competitiveness.

Reserves of Oil and Gas in South Bassein

10413. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the confirmed and unconfirmed reserves of natural gas and oil in South Bassein;

(b) the time by which the supply of gas is likely to begin from the South Bassein and the plans for its utilisation;

(c) the names of the companies working at present for the development of South Bassein and construction of the pipeline to bring gas to the shores and the value of orders taken by each of them and completion schedule committed by them;

(d) the details of development planned or proposed for South Bassein;

(e) the total cost of South Bassein development and the revised schedule for completion of the project; and

(f) the amount of loans committed by foreign countries for South Bassein in development ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) :

(a) The balance recoverable reserves of crude oil and natural gas in Bombay offshore, which includes South Bassein fields, is about 330 million tonnes and 400 billion cubic metres respectively.

(b) Supply is expected to commence in 1988-89, Gas would be utilised mainly for production of fertilizers and power.

(c) M/s. Snam Progetti of Italy have been awarded the contract for development work pertaining to Phase-II of the South Bassein gas fields and work is in progress. The value of the contract is US \$ 138.5 million, and scheduled date of completion is March, 1989. Construction of pipeline to bring the gas onshore has already been completed.

(d) No further plans of development of South Bassein gas-fields are proposed, while for tapping the crude oil from the South Bassein field a scheme is under study by ONGC.

(e) The total cost of the South Bassein gas-fields development undertaken in the two phases is estimated at Rs. 907.59 crores. The completion schedule for the entire project is March 1989.

(f) The following are the loans/credits for the development of the South Bassein gas-field committed by foreign countries :

1. Buyers credit US \$ 26.5 million.
2. Italian Government to Indian Government soft loan US \$ 40.00 million.
3. Kuwait fund, Kuwaity Dinnar 14.6 million.

Import of Crude Oil

104 4. **SHRI MURUIDHAR MANE :**
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the value and quantity of crude oil contracted for purchase and actually imported on term contract and from spot market separately in 1986-87;

(b) the value and quantity of crude oil and sulphur imported from Iraq and Libya separately during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88;

(c) the reasons for purchase of crude oil on term contract basis at OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) prices when spot market oil is available at lower prices;

(d) whether Government are facing any problems in shipment of crude oil from the Gulf due to Iran-Iraq war;

(e) if so, the steps being taken to meet the problems; and

(f) the efforts made to push Indian exports against crude oil purchases as counter trade or otherwise in view of the weak oil market conditions abroad and the results thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) :

(a) The value and quantity of crude oil contracted for purchase and actually imported on term contract during 1986-87 are mentioned below :

Quantity : In million tonnes

Value : Rs. /Crores

Contracted		Actual	
Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
9.9	—	9.9*	1267.13**

The quantity and value of spot market purchases during the year 1986-87 are about 5.9 million tonnes and Rs. 760** crores respectively.

(b) The value and quantity of crude oil imported from Iraq and Libya are indicated below :

Quantity : Million tonnes

Value : Rs. / Crores

	1985-86		1986-87		1987-88 (Provisional)	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Iraq	1.9	475	2.6	362	2.1	365
Libya	—	—	—Nil—	—	—	—

The quantity and value of Sulphur imported from Iraq and Libya are given below :

Quantity : In tonnes

Value : Rs. /Crores

	1985-86		1986-87		1987 88	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
Iraq	—	—	15000	2.34	15000	1.87
Libya	—	—	—Nil—	—	—	—

(c) Term contracts are resorted to for long term security of supplies and also for obtaining crude oils generally not available in spot market.

(d) and (e). No specific problems are being faced in the shipment of oil in the Gulf due to Iran Iraq war.

(f) Most of the term contracts have trade linkages. On spot market purchases, other things being equal, preference is given to parties making proposals for counter trade.

Includes a product swap of 0.3 million tonnes.

** Provisional estimates.

** Provisional estimates.

Industrial growth of Maharashtra

10415. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a setback in the sphere of industrial growth in Maharashtra due to the closure of big mills particularly the textiles and also the power-looms during the last three years;

(b) if so, the extent of this decline as compared to All India average;

(c) whether there has been a growth in the sphere of small scale industries;

(d) if so; the extent thereof during the last three years;

(e) whether on a balance the industrial labour has been benefited and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the losses suffered by them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d). CSO does not monitor statewide industrial growth. Table below gives data for industrial approvals for Maharashtra State for the period 1984 to 1987 :

Year	LOI	Delicensed Registrations with SIA	Total
1984	194	—	194
1985	211	151	362
1986	173	277	450
1987	137	217	354

This shows satisfactory trend in the industrial growth of the State.

In so far as the growth in the Small Scale Sector of Maharashtra is concerned, the number of SIDO units went up from 41040 in 1985 to 49927 in 1987 registering an average annual growth of over 10 per cent during this period.

(e) and (f). The information is not maintained by the Ministry of Industry.

Faults in Biogas Plants

10416. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the faults in biogas plants are design defects or component defects; and

(b) if so, whether a better designed plant will be evolved to make it work trouble free ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The designs of biogas plants being promoted under the National Project for Biogas Development are field worthy and sound. Faults in biogas plants could arise due to improper construction and operational techniques.

(b) Research projects are in progress as a part of continuing activity to develop better and cheaper designs of biogas plants as well as appliances.

Natural gas as a Petrol substitute

10417. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have plans to use natural gas available at low pressure as a petrol substitute in internal combustion engines;

(b) if so, whether any experiments have been done in this regard; and

(c) if so, the current status of the projects ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM). (a) to (c). ONGC have conducted trials for use of compressed natural gas (CNG) as an automotive fuel to replace diesel/petrol at their operational centres in Bombay, Rajahmundry (AP). Gujarat and Tripura. This is a pilot study to examine the suitability and economic viability of this alternative fuel in Indian conditions.

Price decontrol of tranquillisers, hypnotics and sedatives

10418. SHRI RAM DHAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether tranquillisers, hypnotics and sedatives which were categorised as non-essential and kept outside price control under the Drug Policy 1978 and the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979 have been brought under price control under the Drugs (prices Control) Order, 1987; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY. (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) Some tranquillisers, hypnotics and sedatives have been brought under price control under DPCO, 1987, which were decontrolled under DPCO, 1979.

(b) These drugs were included in scheduled II to DPCO, 1987 as per the recommendations of Kelkar Committee.

[Translation]

LPG cylinder at Rs. 2/-

10419. SHRI RAM DHAN :
SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA :
SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA :
SHRIMATI MADHUREE
SINGH :
SHRI BANWARI LAL
PUROHIT :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Energy Development Agency has invented a gas from cellulosic waste in Bakoli Energy Complex which can be used as cooking gas and produced at a cost of only Rs, 2 per cylinder;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action plan chalked out to extend the benefit of this scheme to the consumers at large ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The Delhi Energy Development Agency has taken up an experimental project which relates to scientific, technical and engineering verification of a process, claimed to have been developed by an individual for generation of combustible fuel from cellulosic wastes.

(b) The project consists of raw material, preparation and handling equipment, an experimental reactor, a cleaning and cooling train and flaring up arrangement, besides fire safety arrangements in the initial phase of the project. The equipment for conversion of combustible fuel to electricity (dual fuel generator set) will be added if and when process parameters are verified and experimentations completed. The process is claimed to have been developed only for cellulosic wastes, viz. cotton waste/willow dust.

(c) The Government (Delhi Administration) are meeting full cost of this experimental project, and other necessary infrastructural facilities. The experiment will help to determine whether the process claimed is feasible or exploitable.

Maithon Gas Turbine Projects by
Damodar Valley Corporation

10420. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD :
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which the Maithon gas turbine project which is under construction by the Damodar Valley Corporation is likely to be commissioned and the target date fixed for its completion; and

(b) the reasons for delay in its construction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). As per the original commissioning programme, the first two units of Maithon Gas Turbine Project (3 x 30 MW) under construction by the Damodar Valley Corporation were targetted for commissioning during 1986-87 and the 3rd unit during 1987-88. Due to the time taken in finalisation of Agreement for loan with EXIM Bank of USA and completion of formalities, for availing of the loan, the starting of the work was delayed. The first unit is expected to be commissioned in July, 1988 and the second and third Units in August, 1988.

[English]

Introduction of better public telephone
system

10421. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA :
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Telephone Industries Limited has introduced a better public telephone system which can be ins-

talled at a very cheap cost but giving much improved performance than the present system;

(b) if so, the main features of the system;

(c) whether this will be made available to rural areas also on a selective basis; and

(d) if so, whether all the States can derive benefit out of it and if so, the plan for Orissa, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) ITI Limited is shortly launching products such as Electronic Small Automatic Exchange, C-DOT Rural Automatic Exchange, Integrated Local Cum-Trunk Exchange (ILT) and Mini Integrated Local-cum-Trunk Exchange. The Department of Telecommunications proposes to introduce 512-port digital ILT and 64-port Mini ILT Exchanges in their network. These exchanges are based on ITI design.

(b) The main features of 512-port digital ILT and 64-port Mini ILT Exchanges are as under :

- (i) These exchanges are digital electronic exchanges;
- (ii) Facility to record the number of calls made by each subscribers is provided;
- (iii) Group dialling facilities can be provided.
- (iv) Exchange is designed to be expanded to 2048 lines.

(c) and (d). The Mini ILT exchange is primarily to be used for rural areas. The 512 port exchange is intended to be used at Group dialling centres for provision of group dialling facilities. In this way, it may serve smaller exchanges in rural areas. The proposal in respect of Mini ILT Exchange for Orissa State is under finalisation among others.

Expansion of telephone facility in Orissa

10422. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any targets were fixed by his Ministry under the Seventh Plan for the expansion of telephone facilities in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof both for urban and rural sectors;

(c) the target achieved with reasons for the slippage; and

(d) the steps being taken to make up the lost progress ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are as follows :

Urban—3 new telephone exchanges.

Rural—12 telephone exchanges and 450 Long Distance Public Telephones.

(c) During the First three years of the Plan (1985 to 1988) 92 Telephone Exchanges and 327 Long Distance Public Telephones have been opened in rural areas and 2 new telephone exchanges have been opened in Urban areas of Orissa. The balance of the Seventh Plan Target is likely to be achieved during last two years of the Plan (1988-89 and 1989-90).

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

LPG Agencies in Delhi

10423. SHRI C. SAMBU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the places in Delhi where new LPG agencies were opened

commissioned during 1987-88 and their category-wise details; and

(b) the number and locations of new LPG agencies likely to be commissioned in Delhi during 1988-89 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM):

(a) The oil industry has appointed 14 LPG distributorships at the following locations in Delhi during 1987-88; the category thereof is indicated against each :

S. No.	Name of the Location	Category
1.	Kashmere Gate	OP
2.	Sukhdev Vihar	OP
3.	Jahangirpuri/Subzi-Mandi/ Rana Pratap Marg	UG
4.	Lajpat Nagar	SC
5.	Karol Bagh	UG
6.	Mayur Vihar	FE
7.	Khanpur	SC
8.	Gandhi Nagar/Kailash Nagar	FF
9.	Hari Nagar	Govt. nominee
10.	Rohini	OP
11.	Daryaganj	DC
12.	Kirtinagar/Rameshnagar	OP
13.	Gandhinagar	SC
14.	Alaknanda	Govt. nominee

(OP=Open

UG=Unemployed Graduates

SC=Scheduled Caste

FF=Freedom Fighters

DC=Defence Category)

(b) Upto the Marketing Plans 1987-88, the oil industry has planned to set up 40 more LPG distributorships in Delhi at the

following locations which are at various stages of processing :

S. Name of the location
No.

1. Geeta Colony
2. Bara Hindu Rao
3. Green Park
4. R.K. Puram
5. Pitampura
6. Kalkaji
7. Ajmeri Gate
8. Yamuna Vihar
9. Mayur Vihar (2 locations)
10. Dr. Mukherjee Nagar
11. Rohini (3 locations)
12. Badarpur
13. Motinagar/Karampura
14. Patparganj (2 locations)
15. Gandhinagar (2 locations)
16. Palam
17. Vasant Kunj/Mehrauli (3 locations)
18. Karol Kunj
19. Cantt.
20. Alaknanda
21. Shalimar Bagh
22. Lakshminagar
23. Rani Bagh
24. Paschimपुरी
25. Daryaganj
26. Vishnu Garden
27. Najafgarh
28. Bara Hindu Rao
29. Shakti Nagar
30. Bawana
31. Prashant Vihar
32. Sri Ram Park
33. Sarita Vihar

As various steps precede the actual commissioning of a LPG distributorship, it is not possible to indicate the exact time by which these distributorships will be commissioned.

**Setting up of telephone exchanges
in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh**

10424. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA :
SHRI SRI HARI RAO :
SHRI M. RAGHUMA
REDDY :
SHRI MANIK REDDY :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up any new telephone exchanges and expand the existing telephone exchanges in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh during the next three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof together with capacity likely to be expanded; and

(c) the financial implications thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND
MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI VASANT SATHE) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Details of expansion planned alongwith financial implications year-wise for next three years.

1988-89

(i) A 1,000 lines Electronic Remote Line Unit (RLU) parented to Secunderabad IV has been commissioned at Rajendra Nagar on 23.4.88.

This expansion is part of 10,000 lines Electronic exchange at Secunderabad, the estimated cost of which is Rs. 15.59 crores.

(ii) Following exchanges are likely to be commissioned during remaining part of 1988-89.

(a) 2,000 lines Electronic-Remote Line Unit (RLU) at Saror parented to

Secunderabad IV Electronic Exchange. This forms part of 10,000 lines at Secunderabad, the estimated cost being Rs. 15.59 crores.

(b) 3,000 lines expansion of Saifabad Electronic Exchange. This forms part of 6,000 lines expansion of Electronic Exchange at Saifabad, the estimated cost being Rs. 8.85 crores.

(c) 1,000 lines expansion by way of Electronic Line Cards. The estimated cost being about Rs. 0.9 crores.

(d) 2,000 lines expansion of Crossbar exchange Secunderabad III. The estimated cost being Rs. 0.28 crores.

1989-90 Exchanges likely to be commissioned is as follows :

(a) 1,000 lines Electronic Remote Line Unit (RLU) at Jeedi Matla parented to Secunderabad Electronic Exchange. The estimated cost being about Rs. 1 crore.

1990-91 Exchanges likely to be commissioned is as follows :

(a) 1,000 lines Remote Line Unit (RLU) Expansion each at Jubili Hills and Chandarayangutta parented to Saifabad Electronic Exchange. The estimated cost being Rs. 3.55 crores.

(b) 4,000 lines expansion by way of Electronic Line Cards. The estimated cost being Rs. 3.60 crores.

**Budgetary support to public
sector units**

10425. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :
DR. A.K. PATEL :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "No more funds for public sector" appearing in "The Hindustan Times" of 15th

January, 1988 stating that budgetary support for the public sector has been ruled out as the budget can not any more bear the added burden of sharing public sector losses;

(b) the names of the public sector units which have suffered losses in each of the last three years and the cumulative loss suffered by each of them;

(c) the names of units out of these which will not be given budgetary support and what alternative measured have been adopted for them; and

(d) the names of units which have received budgetary support during 1987-88 and the amount thereof;

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
(SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) Budgetary Support for the Public Sector Undertakings has not been ruled out.

(b) The names of the Public Sector Undertakings which have suffered losses in each of the last three years and cumulative loss suffered by each of them upto 31.3.87 are given in the statement given below.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(d) The Annual Accounts of the Public Enterprises for the financial year 1987-88 are yet to be furnished.

Statement

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of Public Sector Undertaking	Cumulative loss as on 31.3.1987
1	2	3
1.	Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd.	33.68
2.	The Indian Iron & Steel Co. Ltd	476.94
3.	Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd	214.27
4.	Bharat Aluminium Co. Ltd.	333.23
5.	Bharat Gold Mines Ltd.	37.98
6.	Hindustan Copper Ltd.	152.66
7.	India Firebricks & Insulation Co. Ltd.	15.56
8.	Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.	875.86
9.	Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	861.77
10.	Cement Corpn. of India Ltd.	NIL
11.	The Fertilizer Corpn. of India Ltd.	836.32
12.	Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd.	37.59
13.	Hindustan Salts Ltd.	0.75
14.	Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	226.43
15.	Smith Stanistreet & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	4.64
16.	Hindustan Fertilizer Corpn. Ltd.	518.69
17.	Maharashtra Antibiotics & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	3.72
18.	Punjab Maize Products Ltd.	8.10
19.	Bengal Immunity Ltd.	100.21
20.	Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	20.37
21.	Braithwaite & Co. Ltd.	570.72

1	2	3
22.	Heavy Engineering Corpn. Ltd.	68.69
23.	Jessop & Co. Ltd.	
24.	Bharat Process & Mechanical Engineers Ltd.	16.62
25.	Weighbird (India) Ltd.	3.84
26.	Bharat Pumps & Compressors Ltd.	18.91
27.	Biecco Lawrie Ltd.	25.67
28.	National Instruments Ltd.	23.65
29.	Richardson & Cruddas (1972) Ltd.	21.86
30.	Semi Conductor Complex Ltd.	13.94
31.	Central Inland Water Transport Corpn. Ltd.	128.23
32.	Cochin Shipyard Ltd.	65.19
33.	Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd.	98.51
34.	Hindustan Shipyard Ltd.	110.41
35.	Mazagon Dock Ltd.	56.07
36.	Scooters India Ltd.	105.26
37.	Cycle Corpn. of India Ltd.	37.69
38.	National Bicycle Corpn. of India Ltd.	24.67
39.	Nagaland Pulp & Paper Company Ltd.	92.50
40.	Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd.	33.11
41.	The Mandya National Paper Mills Ltd.	27.00
42.	Rehabilitation Industries Corpn. Ltd.	51.95
43.	Tannery & Footwear Corpn. of India Ltd.	61.06
44.	Hooghly Printing Company Ltd.	0.42
45.	National Jute Manufacturing Corpn. Ltd.	263.99
46.	Hindustan Newsprint Ltd.	23.92
47.	Tyre Corpn. of India Ltd.	24.73
48.	State Farms Corpn. of India Ltd.	7.68
49.	NTC (Delhi, Punjab & Rajasthan) Ltd.	66.72
50.	NTC (Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala & Mahe) Ltd.	93.80
51.	NTC (Gujarat) Limited	77.83
52.	NTC (Madhya Pradesh) Limited	123.44
53.	NTC (Maharashtra North) Limited	129.27
54.	NTC (South Maharashtra) Limited	99.29

1	2	3
55.	NTC (Uttar Pradesh) Limited	108.35
56.	NTC (West Bengal, Assam, Bihar & Orissa) Ltd.	191.38
57.	The British India Corpn. Ltd.	60.66
58.	The Elgin Mills Company Ltd.	51.54
59.	The Cotton Corpn. of India Ltd.	118.89
60.	North Eastern Handicrafts & Handloom Development Corpn. Ltd.	1.20
61.	Delhi Transport Corpn.	863.50
62.	Hindustan Prefab Ltd.	6.65
63.	Indian Road Const. Corpn. Ltd.	39.80
64.	Engineering Projects (India) Ltd.	168.65
65.	Hotel Corpn. of India Ltd.	13.18
66.	Artificial Limbs Mfg. Corpn. of India	14.00

Setting up of TV studio at Vijayawada

10426. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a TV studio at Vijayawada by the end of Seventh Plan;

(b) whether the land for the proposed TV studio has since been acquired and allocations made for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the construction is likely to commence ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
(SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) Establish-
ment of a TV Studio Centre at Vijayawada is
included in the Seventh Plan of Doordarshan.

(b) and (c). A suitable site for the loca-
tion of the proposed TV studio has been

identified and an outlay of Rs. 87.00 lakhs
has been included in Doordarshan's Annual
Plan for 1988-89 for this project. The
lead time for completion of projects of this
nature is 3-4 years after commencement of
work at site.

**Group dialling and STD facilities in
all exchanges in Krishna District
of Andhra Pradesh**

10427. SHRI V. SOBHANADREES-
WARA RAO : Will the Minister of COM-
MUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Telecommunications
Department has a proposal to connect all
the exchanges in Krishna District in Andhra
Pradesh by group dialling and S.T.D.
facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely date by which this will be
accomplished ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND
MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). *I. STD*—Vuyyuru is planned to be provided with STD facility during the 7th plan period. 8 Exchanges in Krishna District have already got this facility.

II. Group Dialling—11 group dialling centres covering all exchanges in the districts on the basis of UFZ's (Short distance Charging Areas) system have been formed for this purpose. 4 Group centres are already having group dialling facility while the rest are proposed to have this facility progressively during 7th/8th plan.

**Manufacture of diesel generators
by BHEL**

10428. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bhopal unit of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited is likely to manufacture diesel generators in the near future;

(b) if so, whether these will be better than those manufactured by other countries;

(c) whether the BHEL have submitted their proposal to Government;

(d) if so, by what time Government propose to give the decision; and

(e) the details of the same ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (b). The Bhopal Unit of BHEL is already manufacturing Diesel Generator Sets. The performance of the BHEL sets is comparable to that of sets imported from abroad.

(c) to (e). Do not arise.

**Manufacture of pollution free
buses by BHEL**

10429. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited is manufacturing pollution free

buses for the Delhi Transport Corporation and also for Jammu and Kashmir Transport Undertakings;

(b) if so, how many buses they have already purchased from the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited; and

(c) whether these buses are working satisfactorily ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (b). BHEL has manufactured and supplied 75 pollution free buses to Delhi Energy Development Agency and 10 buses to J and K State Road Transport Undertaking.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Flaring up of Natural Gas

10430. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether with natural gas emerging as an attractive substitute for oil, Government have drawn up an effective strategy to reduce its flaring;

(b) if so, the main points of the strategy that has been adopted;

(c) to what extent it will be helpful; and

(d) the time by which the results of this are likely to be achieved ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following are the major steps taken to reduce flaring of gas :

(i) Compression facilities have been augmented and are being further developed.

(ii) Fall-back consumers are being encouraged who can take gas when

the regular consumers fail to utilise the committed offtake. A 15% discount is given on the basic price for the fall-back consumers.

(iii) Additional consumers have been developed in the North-Eastern Region where the offtake by regular consumers has been very low.

(c) and (d). As a result of the various measures taken, the percentage of gas flared compared to the total production has come down from 42 per cent in 1984-85 to 28. per cent in 1986-87.

Meeting of Chief Executive of Public Sector

10431. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the meeting of the Chief Executives of Public Sector held in Delhi in January, 1988 it was emphasised to give top priority to generating internal resources as Government considered the public sector a major weapon in development and in the war against poverty;

(b) if so, whether the suggestions and guidelines enunciated in the meeting have been circulated to all the public sector undertakings;

(c) if so, whether public sector undertakings have formulated any concrete programme according; and

(d) how many public sector undertakings have started work on those programmes ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir. In the Chief Executives Conference held in Delhi in January 1988 it was emphasised to give top priority to generating internal resources by public sector units but no specific suggestions/guidelines were enunciated in the meeting.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Location of LPG Offices and Godowns

10432. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the conditions laid down for LPG distributors/dealers to locate their offices and godowns to store cylinders;

(b) whether any gas cylinder godowns are located in the residential houses; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any periodical checks of the godowns of gas cylinders are being conducted to ensure that such godowns are not located in residential premises ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) The distributors are required to locate their show rooms/office as far as possible at the market centre keeping in view the convenience of the consumers. Subject to their fulfilling the conditions laid down in the Gas Cylinder Rules, 1981, the godowns can be located at any place, preferably in the marketing area of the distributorship or at nearby locations. These godowns have to be licensed by the Explosives Authorities before the commissioning of the distributorship;

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Agents for printing and distribution of telephone directories

10433. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the particulars of firms and/or individual who have been appointed agents

for the printing and distribution of telephone directories at various places, State-wise;

(b) the amount and the period for which these agencies have been granted;

(c) the number of yellow pages printed in the various directories; and

(d) whether Telecommunications Department gets any share of profit over the sale of these yellow pages and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Encouragement to Women entrepreneurs

10434. SHRI N DENNIS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by Government to encourage women entrepreneurs to establish industries;

(b) whether Government have received any representation from women organisations in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) A number of facilities and incentives such as land and buildings, concessional finance, scarce raw material, and marketing support etc. are provided to small scale entrepreneurs by the State and Central Governments. Women Entrepreneurs are also eligible to all these facilities.

(b) and (c). Some representations have been received from women organisations

recently concerning land and buildings, concessional finance, price preference in Government purchases and abuse of incentives given to women entrepreneurs.

(d) The Government of India has constituted a National-level Standing Committee on Women Entrepreneurs to make recommendations and suggestions to the Government for further development of entrepreneurship amongst women.

Complaints of excess billing of telephones

10435. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the complaints of excess billing of telephones have registered sharp increase in Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras in recent years;

(b) if so, the details in this regard during the last three years; city-wise and

(c) the steps Government have taken or propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir. Though complaints of excess billing of Telephones have increased in recent years in Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras, the increase cannot be termed as sharp.

(b) Details are given below in the Statement.

(c) Steps indicated below have been taken to minimise the number of complaints and settle them promptly :

(i) Introduction of positive battery metering in Cross Bar Exchanges.

(ii) Provision of automatic switch over of day and night tariffs.

(iii) Reduction of forced release period on called subscriber held condition

- from 1 to 2 minutes to 10 to 15 seconds in case of subscriber dialled trunk calls.
- (iv) Introduction of 500 milli seconds delay in trunk automatic exchanges for recognition of called subscriber answer condition.
- (v) Routine testing of subscriber's meters.
- (vi) Sealing of meters.
- (vii) Locking of Meter Rooms.
- (viii) Restriction of entry into M.D.F. Room.
- (ix) Locking of DPs (Distribution points).
- (x) Raising of DPs.
- (xi) Formation of mobile vigilance squads.
- (xii) In order to settle the excess billing complaints promptly, adequate powers have been delegated to the field units at various levels and a maximum time limit of 60 days laid down for settling the complaint.
- (xiii) Instructions have been issued to put the telephone under MLOE observation in the event the fortnightly meter reading indicates a sudden rise in the number of local calls so that reasons of rise could be immediately known and the interests of the subscriber as also of the Department taken care of.
- (xiv) The Department is also progressively installing Automatic Message Accounting equipment indicating details of local from a subscriber in order to check the misuse of phone and satisfy the subscriber.

Statement

Name of City	Years	Nos of bills issued	No of excess billing complaints	Percentage of excess billing complaints to No. of bills
		(In lakhs)	(In lakhs)	
(1) Delhi	1985-86	17.12	0.14	0.82
	1986-87	18.80	0.13	0.69
	1987-88	21.55	0.21	0.97
(2) Bombay	1985-86	25.38	0.16	0.63
	1986-87	27.67	0.13	0.47
	1987-88	29.59	0.25	0.84
(3) Calcutta	1985-86	10.95	0.10	0.91
	1986-87	11.55	0.11	0.95
	1987-88	11.88	0.16	1.34
(4) Madras	1985-86	06.32	0.05	0.79
	1986-87	07.68	0.06	0.78
	1987-88	07.57	0.07	0.92

Capacity utilisation for hydro power generation equipment by BHEL

10436. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited is facing under utilisation of capacity in the manufacture of hydro power generation equipment;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the installed capacity of the BHEL for production of hydro generation equipment and the demands for the equipment during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 respectively;

(d) the details of orders for the equipment for the coming years;

(e) whether his Ministry has discussed with the Ministry of Commerce and other Ministries to find out the ways and possibilities of increasing domestic demand for hydro generation sets; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). BHEL has been facing under-utilisation of capacity for hydro power generation equipment due to inadequate orders.

(c) BHEL's installed capacity for production of hydro generation equipment is 1345 MW per-annum. The extent of orders received by BHEL for hydro sets year-wise is given below :

	(in MW)
1985-86	741
1986-87	312
1987-88	892

(d) At present BHEL has got confirmed orders totalling to 1789 MW for hydro power generation equipment.

(e) and (f). The ways and means of adequately utilizing the capacity available with BHEL for manufacture of power generation equipment have been periodically discussed in meetings attended by representatives of all the concerned Ministries.

Setting up of petrochemical plant at Nagpur

10437. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY** be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to set up a petrochemical plant at Nagpur in the near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when the same will be set up and start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c). An Industrial Licence has been issued to M/s. DCL Polyester Limited for setting up a plant in Nagpur District of Maharashtra State for the manufacture of polyester filament yarn for a capacity of 15,000 tonnes/annum. This unit is expected to be commissioned in the second half of 1989-90.

LPG Order, 1988

10438. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
SHRI V SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of **PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have issued the LPG Order, 1988 to regulate the supply and distribution of cooking gas in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the powers given to state Governments to regulate the supply and distribution by the Order; and

(d) to what extent the Order will check the use of unauthorised cylinders in the country ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) The Liquefied Petroleum Gas (Regulation of Supply and Distribution) Order, 1988 has been promulgated by the Government on April 21, 1988.

(b) and (c). This Order seeks to (i) control unauthorised possession and consumption of LPG (ii) regulate storage and transportation of LPG (iii) check the sale and distribution of LPG below the standard weight (iv) control the unauthorised possession, supply or sale of LPG equipment and (v) to invest in designated officers of the Central/State Governments and oil companies the power of entry, search and seizure with a view to ensuring compliance with the provisions of the Order.

(d) It is expected that effective enforcement of the provisions of this Order will protect the interests of genuine LPG consumers while preventing unauthorised diversion of LPG, in addition to enhancing safety in handling.

Conservation of energy

10439. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD :
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any measures have been introduced to conserve energy keeping in view the overall power shortage in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is proposed introduce legislation to effectively implement the above measures; and

(d) the amount of energy expected to be conserved during the current year as a result of the measures taken so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). The measures introduced to conserve energy include energy audits, training programmes, awareness campaign, grant of fiscal incentives including reduction in import duty on certain energy saving devices, rectification of inefficient pumpsets and amendments in standards prescribed for various electric appliances.

(c) There is at present no such proposal under the consideration of Government.

(d) A precise quantification of the amount of energy expected to be conserved during the current year is not possible. It is not obligatory that the consumers who undertake energy conservation measures should report the results to Government.

Incentives to Industries in rural areas

**10440. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :**

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to grant more incentives to industries, particularly in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government contemplate giving some incentives to the existing industries also to develop them;

(d) whether it is a fact that there is low utilisation of letters of intent issued by Union Government; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

(d) and (e). The rate of utilisation of letters of intent, i.e. conversion of letters of intent into industrial licences over a period of 10 years (1975 to 1984) has ranged between 50 and 60 per cent. Some of the reasons for non-implementation of the letters of intent generally are lack of requisite finance for the project, lack of infrastructural facilities, lack of interest on the part of the promoters, subsequent changes in demand and supply position rendering the project unviable etc.

Statement

(a) to (c). Government has been reviewing from time to time the progress of rural industrialisation and taking measures to promote the same. Recently, the following incentives have been announced :

- (i) Introduction of a special scheme for generation of self-employment in rural areas for specified products namely Radios, Cassette Players and Recorders in combination with Radios, Tape Recorders, Voltage Stabilisers, footwear of value upto Rs. 75 per pair and a few other items.
- (ii) Reduction in Excise-duty from 20 per cent to 10 per cent ad-valorem in respect of certain hand tools like files, screw drivers, pliers for the benefit of the self-employed persons such as Carpenters, Fitters, Electricians, Plumbers etc.
- (iii) Exemption from excise-duty on food items viz. jams, jellies, fruit juices, sauces, ketchups and pickles if manufactured in rural areas by registered cooperative societies, K.V.I.C. and State Khadi and Villages Industries Boards.
- (iv) Full exemption from Excise-duty on laundry and carbolic soaps manufactured in rural areas by co operative and cottage and village industries sector.
- (v) Establishment of industrial areas and estates at District head quarters and at certain selected talukas towards de-centralisation of industrial activity for generating rural

employment, for tapping local resources etc.

Industrial Licensing Policy

10441. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether industrial licensing policy has been further liberalised to allow companies to expand production upto the limit they could achieve upto March, 1990, irrespective of their earlier licensed capacity;

(b) if so, whether this provision will apply to all companies irrespective of whether they belong to MRTP groups or come under FERA; and

(c) if so, whether this would lead to market dominance being established by one or two companies to the exclusion of competition from others ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) and (b). According to the scheme of re-endorsement of capacity announced on 30.3.1988, the maximum production achieved by an industrial undertaking in any financial year between 1.4.88 and 31.3.1990 would automatically be endorsed in its licence or registration certificate subject to certain conditions. It is available to all companies including MRTP/FERA companies.

(c) No, Sir, as the scheme envisages maximum utilisation of the existing capacity only.

Slippage in power generation programmes on National Thermal Power Corporation

10442. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state ;

(a) whether after the synchronisation of several power stations during the last one year, the power generation programme of the National Thermal Power Corporation is expected to receive a setback because of the heavy slippage in respect of development of linked mines to these plants;

(b) if so, to what extent Government are considering to improve its position;

(c) whether any measures are being considered by the National Thermal Power Corporation in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). Coal supply to thermal power stations, including the stations of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) is closely monitored and remedial measures, wherever necessary, are taken to ensure that there is no loss of generation on account of inadequacy of coal supplies.

There has been some delay in the development of the Nigahi and Amlori coal mines of the Northern Coalfields Limited, linked to the Vindhyachal (6 × 210 MW) and Rihand (2 × 500 MW) Super Thermal Power Projects of the NTPC. The Amlori coalmine has since started production and some out put of coal is being realised; regular production from this mine would start in 1990-91.

The first unit of 210 MW of the Vindhyachal Super Thermal Power Project has been commissioned. Two more units of 210 MW each at Vindhyachal and one unit of 500 MW at Rihand are expected to come into commercial operation in 1988-89. Pending development of the Nigahi and Amlori mines, the coal requirements of the Vindhyachal and Rihand Super Thermal Power Projects would be met from other mines in the Singrauli area.

(c) and (d). For the supply of coal to thermal power stations in the Singrauli area,

the merry-go-round system of the power stations of the NTPC is being strengthened by the Corporation, at an estimated cost of Rs. 12 crores, which will provide flexibility of coal movement for supply to its thermal power stations in that area.

Funds for critical projects

10443. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU :
SHRI S. B. SIDNAL :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether newly constituted Power Finance Corporation has decided to identify critical projects in power generation for providing adequate funds in consultation with the State Electricity Boards;

(b) if so, the number of projects identified so far;

(c) the States where these projects are set up; and

(d) whether the State Electricity Boards will be associated or held responsible for the implementation of these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (d). For the Power Finance Corporation (PFC), identification of projects, in consultation with State Electricity Boards/State Governments, is a continuing process. During 1987-88, PFC has financed six ongoing thermal power projects and seven transmission and distribution projects. The projects are located in Haryana, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Karnataka. The Boards of these States have committed that they will maintain their own share of investment and ensure that these projects are completed within the Seventh Plan.

**Increase of financial powers of
N. T. P. C.**

10444. **SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU :**
SHRIMATI BASAVARA-
JESWARI :
SHRI S. B. SIDNAL :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to increase the delegation of financial powers to the National Thermal Power Corporation;

(b) if so, the main features of the new proposal for providing more powers;

(c) the extent to which this will facilitate more projects coming up; and

(d) the extent to which the financial powers have been raised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (d). In the context of the Memoranda of Understanding concluded between the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and the Government of India for the years 1987-88 and 1988-89, the NTPC have been delegated enhanced powers which, inter-alia, include sanction of advance expenditure on new project proposals, releases of foreign exchange upto specified limits in cases of committee multilateral and bilateral assistance tied up for the projects and sanction of incentives etc. within the guidelines laid down for this purpose. The delegation of enhance powers to the Corporation is expected to further facilitate speedy implementation of its various projects.

**Assessment of board of Industrial and
Financial Reconstruction**

10445. **DR. B. L. SHAILESH :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the problem of corporate mortality has assumed special significance at present;

(b) if so, whether any assessment has been made of the dispensation of the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction set up under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 and how far it has offered a cure for the reconstruction of sick units; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to tackle the sick industry problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) Data on sick industrial units assisted by banks in the country are collected by the Reserve Bank of India as per the definition of sickness adopted by it. According to the latest information available from RBI, the number of large sick units in the country for the last three years are as follows :

	Dec., 1984	Dec., 1985	Dec., 1986
Number of large sick units	545	637	714

(b) To deal with the problems of sick industrial companies in an effective manner, the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) was set up which became operational with effect from the 15th May, 1987.

However, as on 30.4.88, the Board received 674 references in respect of sick industrial companies under section 15 of the Act. Of these 474 have been registered, 104 rejected and the remaining are under scrutiny and removal of defects. The cases registered are under various stages of process as required under the Act.

(c) For revival of sick industrial units in the country, Government of India have taken various steps. Some of the important steps are as follows :

(i) The Reserve Bank of India have issued guidelines to the banks for

strengthening the monitoring systems and for arresting industrial sickness at the incipient stage so that corrective measures are taken in time.

- (ii) The banks have also been directed by the Reserve Bank of India to formulate rehabilitation packages for the revival of potentially viable units.
- (iii) Reserve Bank of India have also issued guidelines separately to the banks indicating parameters within which banks could grant reliefs and concessions for rehabilitation of potentially viable sick units without reference to RBI both in the large and small scale sectors.
- (iv) The Government have also enacted a comprehensive legislation namely, 'The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985'. A quasijudicial body designated as 'The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR)' has been set up under the Act to deal with the problems of sick industrial companies in an effective manner.
- (v) Government of India introduced a 'Margin Money Scheme' with a view to supplementing the efforts of the State Government in reducing the incidence of sickness in the small scale sector. Under the liberalised scheme the maximum amount of assistance per unit available to sick small scale units for rehabilitation has been increased from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 50,000.

[Translation]

Creation of Central Zone of Oil Selection Board in Rajasthan

10446. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had considered a proposal to create a Central Zone in Rajasthan in respect of Oil Selection Board;

(b) if so, the action being taken in this regard; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be created ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise in view of (a) above.

[English]

Oil Selection Boards

10447. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the present number and location of Oil Selection Boards in the country;

(b) whether the members of Oil Selection Boards are elected according to a set procedure; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard and the names and particulars of the present members of these Boards, period-wise ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) There are four Oil Selection Boards located at Delhi, Ahmedabad, Madras and Calcutta.

(b) The Chairman of Oil Selection Board is a Judge of a High Court (retired) and the Member is a senior civil servant (retired). They are nominated by the Government, after ascertaining their availability, for a period of three years.

(c) Particulars of the present Chairman/ Members with the dates of reconstitution of the above Boards are given below :

Oil Selection Board	Date of reconstitution	Chairman	Member
North	26.5.87	Justice T.N. Singaravelu (Retd.)	Shri K.A. Ramasubramaniam
East	12.6.87	Justice S.J. Deshpande (Retd.)	Shri K.C. Sochia
West	6.7.87 24.9.87	Justice *Prem Shankar Sahay (Retd.)	Shri Avtar Singh Rikby
South	17.3.87	Justice K.K. Dube (Retd.)	Shri S.N. Bhan

Shortage of raw material for Paper Industry

10448. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL :
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in view of the poor financial condition of the industrial units engaged in the production of paper in the country the future of the industry appears to be dismal according to the World Bank;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the World Bank has mentioned this fact in its annual report;

(c) whether there is no shortage of raw material for production of paper in the country; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to make the country self-reliant in the matter of production of paper, particularly the newsprint ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM)

(a) and (b). Although paper industry is currently facing a number of problems including financial problems, the overall perfor-

mance of the industry in terms of capacity and production build up continues to be satisfactory and likely to improve in the coming years.

(c) There are constraints in the availability of cellulosic raw materials for the paper industry. However, with a view to overcoming these constraints, the industry is allowed to import wood logs, wood chips, pulp and waste paper on a liberal basis.

(d) The installed capacity for paper and paperboard in the country as on 1.1.88 is 28.51 lakh tonnes which is considered adequate to cater to the demand for paper and paperboard in the country for the next five or six years. Proposals for establishment of additional capacity are considered keeping in view the availability of raw material and other relevant considerations. Paper Industry is being encouraged to use non-conventional raw materials. As regards newsprint, in addition to the existing installed capacity of 3 lakh tonnes, an additional capacity of 1.96 lakh tonnes has been approved which is under various stages of implementation.

Merger of Oriental Power Cable Limited, Kota with Hindustan Cables Limited

10449. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to merge the Oriental Power Cables Limited (OPC) at Kota, Rajasthan with the Hindustan Cables Limited; and

(b) if so, the time by which this merger is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
(SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Institute of Reservoir Studies of ONGC

10450. SHRI D.P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "ONGC Institute saves Rs. 100 crore in foreign exchange" appearing in the Times of India dated 10 April, 1988;

(b) if so, when the Institute of Reservoir Studies (IRS) of Oil and Natural Gas Commission started functioning;

(c) the proposed expenditure on IRS in 1988-89 and 1989-90; and

(d) the foreign exchange incurred by IRS during the last three years, year-wise ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Institute of Reservoir Studies (IRS) of ONGC started functioning on 18th May, 1978.

(c) The proposed expenditure of IRS for the year 1988-89 (Budget Estimates) is Rs. 6.60 crores and for 1989-90 is Rs. 8.19 crores.

(d) The foreign exchange incurred by IRS during the last three years is given below :

<i>Year</i>	<i>Rs. in lakhs.</i>
1985-86	9.47
1986-87	19.55
1987-88	5.54
(Provisional)	

Investment in LPG

10451. SHRI D.P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the investment proposed for domestic LPG in 1988, 1989 and 1990:

(b) to what extent, in terms of numbers, the above investment will meet the demand during this period; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to involve private investment in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) A total investment of about Rs. 700 crores has been proposed by the three oil marketing companies during this period for setting up of bottling and marketing facilities, procurement of equipment, etc.;

(b) It is expected that over 90 per cent of the LPG requirement in the country will be met from indigenous production during this period;

(c) No, Sir.

Drilling of wells in 1988-89

10452. SHRIMATI VYJAYANTHIMALA BALI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have worked out any plan for drilling of wells in the country for production of crude oil for the year 1988-89.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of drilling operations of wells proposed to be undertaken in Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh during the current year ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the year 1988-89, it is planned to drill 376 development wells in the country including offshore.

(c) The number of wells planned to be drilled in onshore areas of Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh during the current year are as under :

Area	No. of wells
Gujarat	199
Andhra Pradesh	10
Tamil Nadu	15

Workers employed in Coir Industry

10453. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have statistics about the number of workers employed in the coir industry;

(b) if so, the total number of coir workers in India, particularly in Kerala;

(c) whether it is a fact that a large number of coir workers in Kerala have now become unemployed due to various reasons; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF

INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). No cent percent census of workers engaged in Coir Industry has been conducted. According to some estimates there are about 6 lakh full time and part-time workers, engaged in Coir Industry in India, including 4.30 lakhs reportedly working in Kerala. However, according to a survey conducted by the Department of Economics and Statistics of the Government of Kerala on production of Coir and Coir products in Kerala (1984-85) the total number of persons employed in unorganised sector is estimated at 2.75 lakhs only. The State Government is reassessing the number of people employed in Coir Industry, in Kerala.

(c) and (d). By the very nature of operations, employment in the Coir Industry is by and large on piece rate basis and seasonal in character. However, poor off-take of coir Yarn and coir products is reported to have led to underemployment in the Cooperative Sector, in Coir Industry in Kerala.

Delinking of Directorate of film Festivals from NFDC

10454. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to have state :

(a) whether Government have decided to delink the Directorate of Film Festivals from the National Film Development Corporation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have received any representation against this decision; and

(d) if so, the reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government had appointed in January, 1986 a one-man Committee headed by Dr. Asok Mitra, former Secretary in the

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to enquire into the functioning and performance of the National Film Development Corporation. One of its recommendations was that the Directorate of Film Festivals should be immediately retransferred in its entirety to the Ministry of I and B. Government considered this recommendation and accepted the same.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Since the decision was taken after due deliberation and taking into account various points of view in this regard, Government proposes to implement this decision.

Clearance to Pending Power Projects

10455. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to clear all the power projects which have been pending since long in view of the growing demand for power in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (c). While all efforts are being made to expedite the clearance of the power projects in order to meet the growing power demand, the approval of projects for execution depends upon a number of factors such as the comprehensiveness of the project reports, expeditious response of the project authorities to the various comments/observations of the Central Electricity Authority/Central Water Commission, availability of various inputs and clearances and the relative priority accorded to the projects in terms of allocation of funds.

Electrification of Villages in Bihar

10456. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of villages in Bihar which have been electrified so far;

(b) the number of villages having Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe basties which have been electrified so far;

(c) the amount sanctioned by Union Government to Government of Bihar for expansion of electrification programme during the current financial year; and

(d) the details of the amounts sanctioned for other States during the current financial year, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) In Bihar 60.76 per cent villages have been electrified as on 31.3.1988.

(b) The number of tribal villages electrified in Bihar as on 29.2.1988 was 4931 (Provisional). The number of Harijan Bastis electrified in Bihar as on 31.3.1988 was 18406.

(c) and (d). The State-wise allocation of funds for rural electrification for 1988-89 is under finalisation.

Broadcast of Kannada Programmes in Vividh Bharati Service

10457. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the time given for broadcast of Kannada programmes everyday in Vividh Bharati Service from AIR, Bangalore;

(b) whether Government propose to increase the time for broadcast of Kannada programmes in Vividh Bharati Service; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER

OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT):

(a) Details of the time given for broadcast of Kannada programmes everyday in Vividh Bharati over All India Radio Bangalore is given below :

Week days—180 minutes out of 770 minutes

Sundays—165 minutes out of 800 minutes

In addition, sound track of Kannada films is broadcast once in a quarter.

(b) No Sir.

(c) The present quantum is considered adequate to serve the requirement of the listening public. All India Radio, Bangalore on its primary channel, also broadcasts a preponderance of Kannada programmes.

Kannada Programmes on AIR, Bangalore

10458. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal for increasing Kannada programmes on AIR, Bangalore;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to set up a Shortwave transmitter for AIR, Bangalore exclusively for Kannada programmes; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to install a Short Wave transmitter for AIR, Bangalore or take steps to increase the timings of Kannada programmes ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The programmes in Kannada already account for 90 per cent of the spoken-word

programmes broadcast from AIR Bangalore. There is a scheme in the Seventh Plan to upgrade the existing Mediumwave transmitter of AIR Bangalore from 50 KW to 200 KW.

[Translation]

Industrial development of Districts of U.P.

10459. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI :
SHRI NIRMAL KHATRI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the districts of Uttar Pradesh selected or proposed to be selected by the end of the Seventh Plan for Industrial development;

(b) whether Government are taking some measures for industrial development of Azamgarh, Ballia and Faizabad districts of Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). Industrialisation of specific districts is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. Central Government supplements their efforts by providing the priority in the grant of industrial licences, Central incentives, concessions, concessional finance from the Financial Corporations, Income-tax concessions under the income-tax Act, etc. to the entrepreneurs for setting up industries in industrially backward districts/areas identified by the Central Government. Entrepreneurs setting up industries in Ballia and Faizabad are eligible for 15 per cent Central Investment Subsidy subject to a maximum of Rs. 15 lakhs and Azamgarh is eligible for 10 per cent Central Investment Subsidy subject to a maximum of Rs. 10 lakhs besides other concessions enumerated above.

Kerosene Oil quota to Uttar Pradesh

10460. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI :
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the kerosene oil quota allotted to
Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) whether State Government has lifted
the entire stock; and

(c) the kerosene oil quota proposed to
be allotted to Uttar Pradesh for 1988-89?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE
ALAM) : (a) to (c). Kerosene requirements
of States and Union Territories, including
Uttar Pradesh, are assessed by allowing a
suitable growth over the allocations made in
the corresponding period of the previous
year and allocations are made accordingly.
Since November, 1985, allocations are being
made at 7.5 per cent growth rate for the
Winter Block (November to February) and
at 7 per cent growth rate both for the
Summer Block (March to June) and the
Monsoon Block (July to October). Besides
the regular allocations, additional adhoc
releases are also made to meet specific
situations like floods, droughts, shortages of
LPG/soft coke, etc.

The quantity of kerosene oil allocated to
Uttar Pradesh and the actual offtake during
the years from 1985-86 to 1987-88 were
as under :—

Year	(Figures in tonnes)	
	Allocation	Supplies
1985-86	681460	680000
1986-87	704160	700000
1987-88	778497	781497
		(Provisional)

Kerosene allocation at the rate of 64763
tonnes per month has been made for April
to June, 1988. The above policy for
allocation of kerosene is proposed to be con-
tinued during 1988-89.

**Amount spent on Government tours
by Officers**

10461. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI :
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS
be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent on tours under-
taken by officers of the Ministry in and
outside the country during 1987 and how it
compares with such tours in 1984, 1985
and 1986;

(b) the details of the amount saved by
way of curtailing the number of tours in
pursuance of the instructions issued by
Government in view of the serious drought
and flood situation in the country in 1987;

(c) whether this saving is commensurate
with the instructions issued in this regard;
and

(d) the steps taken to achieve the
targetted savings?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND
MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI VASANT SAIHE) : (a) Travel
Expenses

Year	(Rs. in crores)	
	Within country	Outside country
1984-85	17.32	0.38
1985-86	17.11	0.85
1986-87	21.77	0.59
1987-88	25.60	0.24

(Upto Feb. 1988)

(b) and (c). Instructions to effect
economy in expenditure on travel were issued
to all Heads of field units.

The postal and telecommunication
services have a vast network spread through-
out the country. Their expansion and
efficient maintenance requires periodic on-
the-spot visits by supervisory officers. There
was also an upward revision of the rates of
travelling allowance and daily allowance
with effect from 1-11-1986, which resulted

in increase in expenditure on this account. In spite of these factors, the increase in travel expenses has not been commensurately high.

(d) A ceiling on expenditure on travelling expenses is fixed for each Circle with instructions that this should be contained within the ceiling. Progress of expenditure is closely and regularly monitored at the headquarters.

Other steps taken include—

- (i) avoiding of routine and rotation transfers.
- (ii) directing the entitled officers to travel by train rather than by air, if convenient ;
- (iii) using of duty card passes on the Railways as far as possible whereas available;
- (iv) exercising strict scrutiny on visits abroad and taking up cases for clearance for such tours only where it is considered absolutely essential.

[English]

Industrially backward/no industry areas in Kerala

10462. SHRI VAKKOM PORUSHOTHAMAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the districts in Kerala which have been identified as industrially backward areas/No-Industry areas for providing incentives for setting up industrial units;

(b) the number of units which have been given incentives by Union Government in each district;

(c) the number of applications pending with Government district-wise;

(d) whether any decision has been taken to discontinue this scheme; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) The following districts in Kerala have been identified as industrially backward districts by the Central Government :—

Sl. No.	Category	Name of the District
1.	'A'	Wynad Idukki
2.	'B'	Alleppey Cannanore Malapuram
3.	'C'	Trichur Trivandrum

(b) The Central Investment Subsidy is first disbursed by the State Governments/ Financial Corporations to the eligible units and then the State Governments claim reimbursements of the Central Subsidy disbursed from the Central Government. An amount of Rs. 7.80 crores has been reimbursed to Kerala State from 1985-86 to 1988-89 (upto 6.5.1988) as per details given below:-

Year	Amount
1985-86	Rs. 1.66 crores
1986-87	Rs. 2.70 crores
1987-88	Rs. 3.43 crores
1988-89	Rs. 0.01 crores
(upto 6.5.88)	

Information] on reimbursement of Central Subsidy on district-wise basis is not maintained.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). The Central Investment Subsidy Scheme has been extended upto 30th September, 1988.

Programmes Promoting national unity

10463. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether programmes promoting national unity shown on TV are less as compared to other programmes;

(b) if so, whether Government have any proposal to introduce more programmes emphasising the basic unity of the people;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether programmes indirectly promoting superstitious beliefs will be banned on TV?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) No, Sir. A large number of programmes propagating national integration and communal harmony are shown on TV in formats like short films/feature films/documentaries/developmental programmes/folk songs/interviews/TV reports etc. Programmes meant for specific audience on these themes are also telecast from time to time.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

(d) Doordarshan does not promote superstitious beliefs either directly or indirectly. Therefore, the question of banning such programmes does not arise.

Expansion of Doordarshan

10464. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the total allocation for the expansion of Doordarshan during 1988-89;

(b) the details of the expansion plan; and

(c) the programme being undertaken in Kerala in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) Doordarshan's Annual Plan outlay for 1988-89 is Rs. 180 crores.

(b) Doordarshan's expansion programme under the Seventh Plan envisages the setting up of new studio centres, augmentation of the existing programme production facilities, establishment of a number of high power and low power/very low power transmitters/transposers besides a number of other ancillary schemes. During 1988-89, 10 programme production centres and about 60 transmitters are expected to be commissioned into service.

(c) Besides linking of TV transmitters at Cochin and Calicut to Doordarshan Kendra Trivandrum through microwave for relay of regional service, it is envisaged to set up a low power (100 W) TV transmitter each at Idukki, Kalpetta and Malappuram.

Gas turbine technology

10465. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARSIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is necessary to upgrade the expertise in the design, manufacture, erection and maintenance of existing gas turbines in the country;

(b) the steps taken by various oil companies to achieve self-reliance in gas turbine technology; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) BHEL has acquired technology for design, manufacture, erection and maintenance of Heavy Industrial type gas turbines above 3 MW rating from M/s. GE, USA. The gas turbines are being supplied indigenously based on these technologies and the sets already commissioned are giving satisfactory performance.

(b) and (c). The work relating to construction of HBJ Gas Pipeline was awarded on Turn-Key basis, including supply of Gas Turbines. However, the following steps were ensured by GAIL before placement of

the order of Gas Turbines by the Contractor on foreign manufacturers.

- (i) To provide product support service through M/s. Hindustan Aeronautic Limited for the turbines procured by GAIL.
- (ii) To provide training to Indian personnel by the foreign manufacturer for operation and maintenance of their turbines at Manufacturer's works for which GAIL personnel have already been trained.

Procurement of Crude Oil

10466. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to review the procedure for procurement of crude oil in the international market in order to reduce the foreign exchange outflow from the country;

(b) if so, the strategy worked out in this regard; and

(c) to what extent it will reduce the foreign exchange outflow ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) to (c). Our crude oil import policy is governed by practical considerations. It seeks to ensure security of supplies through import on term contracts with National Oil Companies of the oil producing countries and also flexibility to derive price advantages through purchases on the spot market. As the present policy adequately meets our requirement, there does not appear to be need to review the basic structure of the same.

Shifting of Headquarters of Western Coalfields Limited

10467. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to shift the headquarters of the Western Coalfields Limited to Sambalpur or Jharsuguda in Orissa; and

(b) if so, when and the steps taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Installation of Electronic Telephone Exchanges in Himachal Pradesh

10468. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any preference has been given in the formulation of the programme for the installation of Electronic Exchanges in 1988-89 to the Block/Tehsil headquarters;

(b) if so, the names of the block headquarters, tehsil headquarters, and both block and tehsil headquarters in Himachal Pradesh where Electronic Exchanges would be installed during the year;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether any programme for the last year of the Seventh Plan would give priority to the block headquarters/tehsil headquarters in the installation of these exchanges ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Not applicable in view (a) above.

(d) No programme is there please.

**Preference to local persons/ex-servicemen
in cement factories run by Cement
Corporation of India**

**10469. PROF. NARAIN CHAND
PARASHAR :** Will the Minister of
INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cement factories in Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir and Haryana run by the Cement Corporation of India are giving preference to local persons/ex-Servicemen in the matter of recruitment and to Cooperative Societies formed by the local people/ex-servicemen personnel in the matter of transportation; and

(b) if so, whether Government have ensured that these guidelines are observed strictly by the respective factories' managements ?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
(SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) :** (a) and (b). All Units of Cement Corporation of India Ltd. are following the guidelines issued by the Government of India regarding preference to local persons/ex-Servicemen in the matter of recruitment and to Cooperative Societies formed by the local people/ex-servicemen personnel in the matter of transportation.

[*Translation*]

Sick Power Cable Industries

**10470. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI
SHAKTAWAT :** Will the Minister of
INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number and the names of places of power cable industries functioning in Rajasthan and how many of them are at present closed;

(b) whether the representatives of the people of those areas have drawn the attention of Government to the plight of the labourers who were working in those power cable industries which are lying closed;

(c) whether Government propose to restart the closed power cable industries; and

(d) if so, the time by which Government will restart them by taking over them ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT
IN THE MINISTRY OF
INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :**

(a) According to available information, two companies, viz, M/s, Alcon Power Cables Ltd. and M/s. Surya Power Ltd. are functioning while M/s. Oriental Power Cables Ltd., Kota is lying closed in Rajasthan.

(b) to (d). There have been representations for the reopening of the Oriental Power Cables Ltd. The matter is before the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction for examination under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

[*English*]

**Public Sector Industries in Rajasthan
and Gujarat**

**10471. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER
JAIN :** Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY** be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of central public sector industries in Rajasthan and Gujarat at present;

(b) the number of employees working and the amount invested in the Central public sector in Rajasthan and Gujarat;

(c) whether there are any proposals to set up new industries in the Central sector in these States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
(SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) :** (a) The number and names of Central public sector

undertakings with their Registered Offices located in the States of Rajasthan and Gujarat are given below in Statement-I.

States	No. of employees (Lakhs)	Gross Block (Rs. in crores)
Rajasthan	0.36	780.95
Gujarat	0.49	3197.79

(b) The number of employees working in various Central public sector units located in Rajasthan and Gujarat and the gross block of such units as on 31.3.1987 are given below :

(c) and (d). Given below in Statement-II.

Statement-I

Sl. No.	Name of enterprises	Registered office
1.	Indian Petrochemicals Corpn. Ltd.	Gujarat
2.	NTC (Gujarat) Ltd.	"
3.	Hindustan Packaging Co. Ltd.	"
4.	Indian Dairy Corporation	"
5.	Hindustan Zinc Ltd.	Rajasthan
6.	Instrumentation Ltd.	"
7.	Sambhar Salts Ltd.	"
8.	Rajasthan Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	"
9.	Rajasthan Electronics and Instruments Ltd.	"
10.	Hindustan Salts Ltd.	"

Statement-II

New Schemes as proposed in the 7th Five Year Plan to be set up in the States of Rajasthan and Gujarat in Industry and Mineral Sectors are as under

Sl. No.	Enterprises	Brief particulars of the unit	State	Location	7th Plan provision (Rs. in crores)
1.	Projects and Development India Ltd.	New Schemes	Gujarat	Baroda	1.95
2.	Indian Petrochemicals Corpn. Ltd.	New Schemes	Gujarat	Baroda	100.24
3.	Engineering Projects India Ltd.	Warehousing Project	Gujarat	Kandla	1.00
4.	Hindustan Zinc Ltd.	Environmental control and Energy Conservation	Rajasthan	Kandla	2.50
	" " "	Pyrites Utilisation	Rajasthan	Kandla	1.00
	" " "	Rampura Aguch			
		Integrated Project	Rajasthan	Kandla	25.00
5.	Hindustan Copper Ltd.	Smelter Modernisation	Rajasthan	Khetri	21.00
	" " "	Cantop Smelter	Rajasthan	Khetri	1.00
6.	Pyrites Phosphate and Chemicals Ltd.	Saladipura-mine	Rajasthan	Saladipura	1.90
7.	HMT Ltd.	New Schemes	Rajasthan	Ajmer	1.00

**Improvement by Technology Mission on
Telecommunication in Rajasthan,
Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh**

10472. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER
JAIN : Will the Minister of COMMUNI-
CATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the technology mission on
telecommunication is in operation in Rajas-
than, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the improvement
brought about by the mission in telecommu-
nication service in these States; and

(d) the details of the future plans ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND
MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI VASANT SATHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the technology Mission on
Telecommunications, following activities are
involved :

1. Improve quality of service.
2. Increase urban PCOs.
3. Improve delivery of telegrams.
4. Provide Telex on demand.
5. Improve Rural Communications.
6. Build up National Digital Network
down to District HQs.

(c) The progress achieved in important
indicators of Telecom. Services under
Mission since its launching in April, 1986
in Rajasthan, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh
has been quite significant as indicated in
Statement-I given below.

(d) The details of future plans are
given below in statement-II.

Statement-I

Achievements in Important Indicators of Telecom. Service

	Rajasthan		Gujarat		U.P.	
	1.4.86	1.4.88	1.4.86	1.4.88	1.4.86	1.4.88
1. Telephone Fault Rate. (No. of faults/100 tele- phone/Month	50.9	31.2	41.5	22.53	47.4	29.9
2. Manual trunk efficiency	72.6	74.0	74.5	78.1	64.8	70.9 (1.2.88)
3. Percent delivery of telegrams within 12 hours between large cities.	40	74.2	32.3	73.6	20.6	60.4

Statement-II

The details of future plan (1988-90) are as under :

- Replacement of old and worn out telephone instruments and exchange equipment.
- Installation of Digital electronic exchanges at Jaipur, Jodhpur, Makrana, Nagpur, Bundi, Ahmedabad, Rajkot, Surat, Baroda, Ghaziabad, Varanasi, Allahabad, Lucknow, Kanpur, Barant, Khurja, Sikandrabad and Gazipur.
- Training and motivation and reorientation of staff members.
- Computerisation of Manual Trunk exchange at Jaipur, Ahmedabad, Rajkot, Baroda, Surat, Lucknow, Kanpur, Agra, Allahabad and Ghaziabad.
- Computerisation of Directory Enquiry Service at Jaipur, Ahmedabad, Baroda, Surat, Kanpur Agra, Allahabad and Varanasi.
- Opening of Urban PCOs.

Rajasthan	600
Gujarat	2360
U P.	1550

--Opening of Rural LDPTs

Rajasthan	728
Gujarat	272
U.P.	400

—Opening small electronic exchanges in Rural areas (C-DOT design) during 1988-89.

Rajasthan	30
Gujarat	10
U.P.	40

—Provide Telex connection on demand by 1990

—Percentage delivery of telegrams within 12 hours (day light) is raised to 99 per cent between large towns.

Kerosene oil quota to Rajasthan

10473. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of kerosene oil quota allotted to Rajasthan from 1 July, 1987 to 31 March, 1988;

(b) whether the quota was allotted at enhanced rate;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government propose to increase the quota of kerosene oil in view of the drought condition in the State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) to (e). Kerosene requirements of States and Union Territories, including Rajasthan are assessed by allowing a suitable growth over the allocations made in the corresponding period of the previous year and allocations are made accordingly. Since November, 1985, allocations are being made at 7.5% growth rate for the Winter Block (November to February) and at 7% growth rate both for the Summer Block (March to June) and the Monsoon Block (July to October). Besides the regular allocations, additional adhoc releases are also made to meet specific situations like floods, droughts, shortages of LPG/soft coke, etc.

Details of allocation of kerosene made to Rajasthan from July 1, 1987 to March 31, 1988, are given below :

Month	(Figures in tonnes)		
	Regular allocation	Addl adhoc allocation	Total allocation
	1	2	3
July, 87	6270	1746	18016
Aug., 87	16270	1746	18016
Sept., 87	16270	1746	18016
Oct., 87	16270	1746	18016

1	2	3	4
Nov., 87	19240	1746	20986
Dec., 87	19240	1746	20986
Jan., 88	19240	2240	21486
Feb., 88	19240	1746	20986
March, 88	16600	1746	18346

The above policy is proposed to be continued during 1988-89.

Committee to look into the financial aspects of the paper industry

10474. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a high powered committee has been set up by Government to look into the financial aspects of the paper industry,

(b) whether the above committee has finalised its report;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the likely date when the report is to be submitted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d). A Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Industrial Development, was set up in March, 1986 to look into the financial aspects of the paper industry. The Committee has since finalised its report. The report mainly focuses on short-term measures that are necessary to stimulate the demand for paper and paperboard in the country and to tide over the immediate difficulties faced by the industry.

Expansion of electronic remote line exchange unit at Shabdara, Delhi

10475. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the electronic remote line exchange unit at Shabdara, Delhi has been expanded to 4,000 lines with code '228';

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether all the telephone lines north of the Delhi Shabdara, Ghaziabad Railway line from the "20" exchange have been taken over by the new exchange to code "228", and

(d) if so, the broad features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The remote line unit has been expanded to 5000 lines.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. All the telephones north of Delhi Shahadara-Ghaziabad Railway line and falling within the Union territory of Delhi have been taken over by the new exchange to Code "228".

Telephone connections in Ahmednagar district in Maharashtra

10476. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any blocks in Maharashtra which are not having telephone connections;

(b) the number of telephone connections in Ahmednagar district, block-wise; and

(c) the target date by which all the blocks will be connected by telephone system ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) All blocks in Maharashtra having telephone connections.

(b) The block-wise number of telephone connections in Ahmednagar district are given below :

S. No.	Name of the Block	No. of connections
1.	Ahmednagar	3784
2.	Akola	182
3.	Jamkhed	180
4.	Karjat	178
5.	Kipargaon	1068
6.	Newasa	506
7.	Parner	227
8.	Pathardi	178
9.	Rahuri	766
10.	Sangamner	865
11.	Shevgaon	204
12.	Shirampur	1269
13.	Gonda	270
Total		9677

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Committee to examine the functioning of Song and Drama Division and Directorate of Field Publicity

10477. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have appointed any committee to examine the functioning of Song and Drama Division and the Directorate of Field Publicity;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken steps to make the functioning of these organisations more purposeful and effective; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Government has not so far taken any view on the recommendations of the Committee.

Setting up of a paper mills in Maharashtra

10478. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of paper mills in Maharashtra in the private and public sectors;

(b) whether Union Government have taken a decision to set up some more paper mills in Maharashtra; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) As on 1.1 1988, there are 48 units borne on the rolls of Directorate General of Technical Development engaged in the manufacture of paper and paperboard in the State of Maharashtra. None of these are in the public sector.

(b) and (c). The Central Government have no proposal at present to set up any paper mill in the State of Maharashtra.

Subsidy for energising pumpsets

10479. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any subsidy is given to States to provide power free of cost for energising irrigation pumpsets;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether there is any proposal before Government to provide subsidy to States for energising irrigation pumpsets free of cost ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) No subsidy is given by the Central Government or the Rural Electrification Corporation to the States to provide power free of cost for energising irrigation pumpsets.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no proposal before the Government to provide subsidy to States for supply of power free of cost for energising pumpsets

Setting up of New Oil Terminal in Bangalore

10480. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which the new oil terminal is likely to be commissioned in Bangalore;

(b) the storage capacity of the proposed new oil terminal;

(c) the cost involved therein;

(d) the benefits that are likely to accrue after the establishment of the proposed new oil terminal;

(e) the present stage of the new oil terminal work at Bangalore, and

(f) the amount so far spent on this terminal ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) Indian Oil Corporation and Bharat Petroleum Corporation are putting up additional oil terminal/depot with sto-

rage and handling facilities for POL products in Bangalore, which are likely to be commissioned during 1990-91/1991-92.

(b) The storage capacity proposed is 50264 KLs.

(c) The total cost of putting up these facilities is estimated at Rs. 16 90 crores.

(d) The terminal/depot will ensure availability of petroleum products in the State, as per oil industry norms and help in meeting the projected demand in the future as the existing facilities are considered inadequate to meet the same.

(e) Action for identification and acquisition of suitable land for the proposed terminal/depot is in progress.

(f) No expenditure has yet been incurred.

Closure of paper plant in Koraput, Orissa

10481 DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the paper plant set up near Jeypore in Koraput district, Orissa has been closed down since more than one and a half years;

(b) if so, the reasons of the closure; and

(c) the details of efforts made by Government to revive the above paper unit ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) M/s. Sewa Paper Mills, Jaypore, District Koraput, Orissa, is lying closed since March, 1987.

(b) The operations at the Mill have been unsatisfactory from the very inception,

due to low capacity utilisation, management deficiency, liquidity problems and certain sectional imbalances in the plant.

(c) The Financial Institutions, in consultation with the State Government and other concerned agencies were engaged in efforts to revive and rehabilitate the unit. Since the Company would be a sick industrial company in terms of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, any rehabilitation scheme for the company will have to be formulated under the aegis of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction.

[*Translation*]

**Closure and shifting of industries
following Supreme Court
Judgement**

10482. SHRI KALI PRASAD
PANDEY:
SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD :
SHRI VILAS MUT-
TEMWAR :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Division Bench consisting of two judges of the Supreme Court has stated in their judgement on 12 January, 1988 that those industries should not be given licences which are not capable of disposing of their effluents;

(b) if so, the action taken by Union Government so far to implement the judgement given by the Division Bench and the outcome thereof;

(c) the names of the industries for closing and shifting of which Government have taken action following the judgement of the Supreme Court; and

(d) if no effective action has so far been taken, the reasons therefor ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF**

INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) One of the directions given in the Supreme Court Judgement dt. 12.10.1988 is that applications for licences to establish new industries in the future shall be refused unless adequate provision has been made for the treatment of trade effluents flowing out of the factories. Immediate action should also be taken against the existing industries if they are found responsible for pollution of water.

(b) Instructions already exists to the effect that letters of intent granted in respect of the identified highly polluting industries will not be converted into industrial licences unless the State Pollution Control agencies are satisfied that the equipments installed or proposed to be installed are adequate and appropriate for controlling pollution effectively. It is also one of the conditions of the letters of intent/industrial licences that adequate steps are taken to the satisfaction of the Government to prevent air, water and soil pollution.

(c) and (d). The directions given by the Supreme Court in this regard have been brought to the notice of the concerned State Governments for taking immediate necessary action.

[*English*]

Foreign exchange earned by ONGC

10483. SHRIMATI JAYANTI
PATNAIK : Will the Minister of
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be
pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has taken some steps to earn foreign exchange;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount of foreign exchange earned by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission during the period of taking steps in that direction; and

(c) the details of the expertise developed therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Letters of Intent to Employment oriented units

10484. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to give priority in granting letters of intent to the employment oriented units;

(b) whether Government have received some suggestions from different quarters in this regard; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government thereon, particularly for the growth of such industries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARJUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). Government takes into account various factors including employment generation and availability of skilled and other technical manpower required for the project. Priority can be given for proposals which are employment oriented. Any suggestions received in this regard will be considered by Government in the context of national priorities.

Computerisation in the Postal Department

10485. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Posts has been trying to develop various types of machines to tackle the ever increasing mail traffic in the major urban areas;

(b) if so, the efforts and achievement made by the Department of Posts in this regard;

(c) the steps taken to computerise the Postal Department as a whole; and

(d) what other steps are proposed to be taken to expedite the processing of mail ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The Department has not developed any type of machine on its own but has got some machines developed through private manufactures of mechanical and office equipment for use by post offices to tackle the increasing urban traffic. Machines manufactured by private manufactutres in India according to the requirements and specification of the Department of Posts :

1. 261 Registration Booking Machines.
2. 146 Money Order Booking Machines.
3. 443 Stamp Cancelling Machines.

Machines imported for use by the Department of Posts :

- (i) 60 advanced type High Speed Franking Machines;

(c) The use of computers in the Department is recent. The following four areas have been identified for computer application :

- (i) Money Order reconciliation work.
- (ii) Postal Life Insurance work.
- (iii) International Mail Accounting work.
- (iv) Saving Bank work on computer system each has been installed in four Circles for above applications.

(d) The Department is processing a proposal for mechanised mail sorting in Bombay in order to expedite the processing

of mail. However, no final decision has been taken in this matter.

New telephone connections in Kerala

10486. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of new telephones installed at various places in Kerala during 1987-88;

(b) the total number of applications pending with the Kerala Telecommunications Circle as on 31 March, 1988;

(c) the target set for new telephone connections in the State during 1988-89; and

(d) the time by which the pending applications are expected to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Total Number of telephone connection provided in Kerala during 1987-88 is 16449.

(b) Total application pending with Kerala Telecommunication Circle as on 31.3.88 is 53940.

(c) Target set for new telephone connections in the Circle during 1988-89 is 14,000.

(d) By the end of the 7th Five Year Plan, it has been proposed to provide on an average telephone connection to those applicants who have registered upto 1.4.87 in exchange system of capacity 2000 lines and above, upto 1.4.88 in medium size exchange system and up to 1.4.90 in rural exchanges depending on supply of equipment and associated stores for works. The remaining applicants will be provided telephone connection progressively during the 8th Five Year Plan.

Supply of power by Damodar Valley Corporation to Eastern Coalfields Limited

10487. SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of the Eastern Coalfields Limited has suffered due to non availability/erratic supply of power by the Damodar Valley Corporation;

(b) if so, the losses incurred thereby in terms of value and also in terms of tonnage during the financial years 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87, year-wise;

(c) the amount of overtime involvement in terms of money due to non-availability/erratic power supply by the Damodar Valley Corporation; and

(d) the action Government propose to take to revitalise the Damodar Valley Corporation and also to streamline its performance and for installation of captive power plants to ensure continuous power supply to ECL collieries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The estimated loss of coal production in ECL and its value during the years 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 on account of power failure are given as below:

Year	Loss of production (In lakh tonnes)	Value of production loss (Rs. in crores)
1984-85	19.81	48.24
1985-86	24.47	61.25
1986-87	23.10	66.97

(c) No overtime becomes payable on account of non-availability of power supply. However, mines has to work for production

on Sundays/Holidays to endeavour to maintain the production targets. Amount of overtime payment for Sunday/Holidays production in 3 years period is Rs. 12.60 crores, 3.09 crores and 2.92 crores for 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 respectively.

(d) A gas turbine plant of 3x30 MW capacity is under installation in DVC to supply power to core sector consumers like Railways, Coal and Steel. In addition, two other projects i.e. Bokaro 'B' stage II (2x210MW) and Mojia (3x210 MW) thermal power projects are being implemented by DVC.

For captive power generation, ECL proposes to set up a 2x10 MW thermal plant at Chinakuri.

Import of French Technology in Longwall Mining by CIL

10488. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries propose to induct French technology in Longwall Mining by way of direct import from France; and

(b) If so, the reasons for restoring to direct import while MAMC in India is equipped to cater the needs of subsidiaries of CIL in this respect ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : (a) and (b) It is proposed to import suitable longwall mining equipment from France for mining thick coal seams (thicknesses of 4 metres and above) involving mining techniques like 'sub-level caving' and 'multi slicing'. These techniques are well developed in France and the French have considerable experience and expertise in the manufacture of this equipment. MAMC, at present, does not manufacture longwall equipment suitable for mining coal seams of thicknesses 4 metres and above.

Advance orders on Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited by CIL Subsidiaries

10489. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the assurance by the Coal India Limited subsidiaries for placing three-four years advance orders on Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited (MAMC) for their requirements of equipment and spares has been kept with;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and whether this is creating a severe hindrance to the balanced loading of MAMC; and

(c) if so, the action Government propose to take to feed MAMC properly throughout the year with repetitive nature of orders from another public sector organisation i.e. Coal India Limited ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : (a) to (c). Depending upon the requirement, availability of competitive technically acceptable offers from MAMC, the manufacturing capacity and delivery schedules of MAMC, CIL and its subsidiaries have been following the policy of placing advance orders for different types of equipment manufactured by MAMC.

Completion of project in Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited

10490. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of orders for turnkey jobs received by the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited, Durgapur, West Bengal during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88, both in terms of value and tonnage;

(b) the dates of commencement and completion of major turn-key projects

undertaken by the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited in respect of steel, coal and power plants with details thereof and whether the completion schedule formulated month-wise/year-wise is being adhered to; and

(c) if not, the reasons for slippages and whether company has to bear penalty for the slippages and whether there exists any mechanism to fix up responsibility and action taken in such cases ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) Statement is given below.

(b) and (c). Statement II, is given below. The delay in many cases is not attributable to MAMC, There has been no instance in which it was necessary to fix responsibility against any individual officer 'I' for any slippages.

Statement-I

(a) The number of turn-key jobs received by MAMC during the years 1985-86 1986-87 and 1987-88 in terms of value and tonnage are given below :

S. No.	Name of the project	Tonnage	Value
1985-86 :			
	Scrapper and Screw Conveyors for VSP	299 MT	Rs. 231.97 lakhs
1986-87 :			
1.	Chutes for COBPP of VSP	524 MT	Rs. 224.47 lakhs
2.	Chutes for Sintar Plant for VSP	250 MT	Rs. 123.11 lakhs
3.	Madhuband Washery	12690 MT	Rs. 7250.00 lakhs
	+	41000 M3 Concreting	
	Total	13484 MT	Rs. 7597.58 lakhs
	+	41000 M3 Concreting	

1987-88 :

1.	Bharatpur CHP	471 MT	Rs. 325.00 lakhs
2.	Farakka CHP Stage II	6798 MT	Rs. 3618.30 lakhs
		+ 8856 M3 concreting	
3.	Granulated Slag Handling conveyors for VSP	396 MT	Rs. 98.66 lakhs
4.	Balast Furnace Conveyor for VSP	341 MT	Rs. 122.80 lakhs
5.	Sinter Plant Conveyor for VSP	549 MT	Rs. 196.51 lakhs
		8555 MT	Rs. 4261.27 lakhs
		+ 8856 M3 concreting	

Statement-II

S. No.	Name of the Project	Contractual commencement date.	Contractual completion date.	Actual completion date.	Base value in lakhs	Total wt. in MT.	Reasons for slippage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Power Sector							
1.	Korba TPS NTPC	29.06.79	30.09.1981	July, 1984	1144.36	4000 MT	Delays have taken place for variety of reasons such as delay on the part of customer in system's design, increase in quantities not anticipated earlier, delay in receipt of drawings from the customer, non availability of fronts
2.	Wanakbori TPS	09.11.79	31.05.1982	May, 1985	648.22	2780 MT	
3.	DPL CHP	03.02.88	03.05.1982 (31.12.86)	July, 1987	343.71	1080 MT	
4.	Aupara CHP	11.01.82	10.02.1984 (31.01.86 (R))		1442.00	2510 MT	
5.	Kolaghat CHP	01.02.80	30.04.1982 30.05.1984(R)		875.65	4191 MT	
6.	MUZ. WAGON Tipplder	29.01.81	28.02.1983 (30.6.1986)		305.78	400 MT	
7.	DTPC CHP	12.11.76	31.05.1979		273.00	1700 MT	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8.	Bokaro 'B' DVC	28.02.82	23.02.1984 31.03.1985(R)		1267.50	3112 MT	in time and in a proper sequence, delay in getting im- ported equip- ment, and liquidity problems, etc. Same as men- tioned at prepage.
<i>Steel Sector</i>							
1.	MIOP BSL	31.03.78	31.03.1980	Dec., 85	662.00	3800 MT + Civil	
2.	VSP RMHS Conv.	28.07.82	31.01.1986 (30.4.1988)		356.33	1405 MT	
3.	VSP CO BPP Conv.	31.04.82	30.04.1985 (30.04.1988(R))		968.39	3335 MT	
4.	VSP Sinter Plant Conv.	28.02.84	31.08.1985 (30.04.1988(R))		941.39	3038 MT	
5.	VSP Slew Stackler	05.01.1984	30.06.1985 (30.06.1988)		408.93	826 MT	
6.	VSP Scraper Conv.	03.02.1985	30.04.1947 (30.04.1988(R))		231.97	299 MT	
7.	VSP Chute COBPP	14.10.1984	31.12.1987 (30.04.1988(R))		224.47	524 MT	
8.	VSP Chute sinter plant	14.10.1984	31.12.1987 (30.04.1988(R))		123.11	250 MT	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	VSP Stacker/Reclaimer	21.12.1984	31.12.1988		204.02	322 MT	
10.	BSP Stacker/Reclaimer	17.02.1983	17.02.1985 (28.02.1987)	March, 88	356.97	617 MT	
11.	BSP Scop Conv.	09.03.1984	07.09.1985 (31.03.1987)	April 87	179.92	545 MT	
12.	BSP Coke Sorting Conv.	23.02.1984	23.08.1985 (31.03.1987)	May, 1987	182.85	485 MT	
<i>Coal Sector</i>							
1.	Rajrappa Washery	01.02.1979	31.01.1982	April, 87	1484.00		
2.	Moonidih Washery	30.09.1975	31.03.1979	March, 83	1472.00	4757 MT + Civil	
3.	Madhuband Washery	09.01.1986	08.01.1989		7250.00	12690 MT + Civil	

Expenditure on TA/DA in Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited

10491. DR. SUDHIR ROY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of expenditure incurred during 1986-87 and 1987-88 on account of Travelling Allowance and Daily Allowance in the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited, Durgapur, West Bengal by the functional Directors including CMD of the Company;

(b) the percentage of the expenditure incurred by the functional Directors on account of TA and DA out of the total expenditure incurred on this account and the percentage represented out of the total expenditure incurred against "Establishment" during the above period; and

(c) whether the expenditure incurred against TA and DA is properly reflected on the overall performance including securing orders for the organisation ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) The figures of travelling expenditure during 1986-87 and 1987-88 are as follows :

1986-87 : Rs. 1.73 lakhs (Actual)

1987-88 : Rs. 3.89 lakhs (Prov.)

(b) The TA/DA expenditure incurred during 1986-87 and 1987-88 represents 3.90 per cent and 8.94 per cent of the total expenditure on the same account and 0.08 per cent and 0.18 per cent of the total establishment expenditure respectively.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Losses in Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Ltd.

10492. SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the projected losses in the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited, Durgapur (West Bengal) during 1987-88 and losses actually suffered during this year with month-wise break-up;

(b) the details of reasons for incurring the losses even after capital re-structuring and earning profit during 1986-87; and

(c) whether Government propose to revamp the management set up of the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited, Durgapur to improve its performance ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) The projected loss in MAMC during 1987-88 was Rs. 591 lakhs. As the financial accounts of the year have not yet been finalised, the actual losses suffered during the year cannot be furnished at this stage.

(b) The main reasons for incurring losses are the increase in the cost of inputs, cancellation/deferment of certain export orders, increase in wages and salaries and stoppage of production due to strike in November, December, 1987 etc.

(c) It is not considered necessary to revamp the management set up of the company.

Workers' participation in management of Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Ltd.

10493. SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scheme of workers' participation in the management has been formalised and implemented in the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited, Durgapur, West Bengal and if not, when it is going to be materialised ; and

(b) the number of meetings of the existing plant council held in the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited during

1986-87 and 1987-88 and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (b). The Scheme of workers' participation in management was introduced but it is not working satisfactorily due to inter-union differences.

Foreign tours by Directors and General Managers of Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited

10494. SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the foreign tours undertaken by Directors and General Managers of the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation Limited during the last two years and to which country and the purpose of such visits and the amount of expenditure incurred on such tours;

(b) whether it is a fact that officials sent abroad by MAMC for specialised training and expertise have not been put on jobs for effective utilisation commensurating with their training after their return;

(c) the number of such officers sent for such training and expenditure incurred thereby; and

(d) the action Government propose to take to rationalise the whole affair of foreign tours to control the wasteful expenditure and also to make the foreign tours result-oriented?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (c). A statement is given below :

(b) No, Sir.

(d) It has not been felt necessary to further rationalise the system as foreign tours are need-specific and result-oriented.

Statement

(a) The Foreign Tours undertaken by Functional Directors and General Managers of MAMC during the financial year 1986-87 and 1987-88 are shown below :

S. No.	Designation	Total period of trip with dates	Place visited	Total Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5
1986-87				
1.	General Manager (D)	16 days from 14.1.86 to 29.1.1986	USSR	0.34 lakhs
2.	C.M.D.	12 days from 4.10.86 to 15.10.86	USA/UK	0.62 lakhs
3.	General Manager (D)	12 days from 4.10.86 to 15.10.86	USA/UK/ W.G.	0.59 lakhs
4.	General Manage. (MS)	16 days from 4.10.86 to 19.10.86	-do-	0.63 lakhs

1	2	3	4	5
1987-88				
1.	C.M.D.	9 days from 18.5.87 to 26.5.87	USSR	0.19 lakhs
2.	General Manager (D)	9 days from 18.5.87 to 26.5.87	USSR	0.20 lakhs
3.	Director (Mktg)	9 days from 16.9.87 to 24.9.87	East Germany	0.23 lakhs
4.	General Manager (D)	14 days from 3.10.87 to 16.10.87	Poland/ France W. Germany	0.36 lakhs
5.	Director (Mktg)	6 days from 20.10.87 to 25.10.87	Hungry	0.35 lakhs
6.	C.M.D.	8 days from 14.11.87 to 21.11.87	USSR/ W. Germany	0.41 lakhs
7.	Director (P & P)	6 days from 31.1.88 to 5.2.88	France	0.28 lakhs
8.	General Manager (D)	8 days from 7.1.88 to 14.1.88	USSR	0.32 lakhs

(c) The total No. of officers sent for training abroad alongwith total number of mandays as well as expenditure for the years 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 are shown below :

Year	No. of Officers	Total Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)
1985-86	8	4.19
1986-87	7	2.81
1987-88	10	3.45

Reservation for SCs and STs in Public Enterprises

10495. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any recommendations have been made by the Special Commissioner for

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, New Delhi to the Department of Public Enterprises to incorporate and to implement reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes effectively in public enterprises; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (b). The special Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, New Delhi has, inter-alia, made the following suggestions to the Deptt. of Public Enterprises :

- (i) Review of time bound promotion schemes adopted by public enterprises as to provide for relaxation in the minimum eligibility criteria in favour of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;
- (ii) Stay on the implementation of time bound promotion schemes by public enterprises;

- (iii) Rosterisation and due reservation with appropriate relaxations/concessions for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes wherever time-bound promotion schemes involve some element of rejection of individual candidates;
- (iv) A time-bound action programme for bringing up the representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to the level equivalent to their population percentages in each public enterprise; and
- (v) Consultation by the management of public enterprises with associations of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe employees on service matters.

Setting up of industries in backward areas of Maharashtra

10496. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have selected some industrially backward districts in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the regions selected in Maharashtra;

(c) the type of industries proposed to be set up by Government for industrial development of backward regions of Maharashtra;

(d) whether apart from setting up industries, Government propose to take any other steps for upliftment of these backward areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M ARUNACHALAM) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following districts in Maharashtra have been identified as industrially

backward districts by the Central Government :

Category	Name of the district
'A'	1. Gadchiroli
'B'	1. Ratnagiri 2. Aurangabad 3. Chandrapur
'C'	1. Bhandara 2. Bhir 3. Buldhana 4. Colaba 5. Dhulia 6. Jalgaon 7. Nanded 8. Osmanabad 9. Parbhani 10. Yeotmal

(c) to (e). Setting up of industries and taking other steps for upliftment of backward areas is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. The Central Government supplements their efforts by providing priority in the grant of industrial licences, Central incentives concessional finance from financial institutions, income-tax concessions under the Income-tax Act, etc. All types of industries are eligible for these incentives.

Raising of prices of Low Density Polyethylene by Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited

10497. SHRI ARVIND TULSHI KAMBLE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited had raised the price of its General Purpose Grade Low Density Polyethylene from Rs. 21,300/- to Rs. 30,500/- per MT i.e. by more than 43 per cent from March, 1987 to April, 1988;

(b) if so, whether this increase is to subsidise the import of low Density Polyethylene and to indirectly canalise the import through the State Trading Corporation;

(c) whether the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited has managed enough imports to meet the shortage of this raw material in the country:

(d) whether the industry was taken into confidence by the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited about the price hike; and

(e) whether the IPCL has not implemented its distribution policy dated 23 September, 1987 and if so, the steps Government propose to take to make it a realistic policy of implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) to (e). There is an overall shortage of Low Density Polyethylene (LDPE) raw material in the country. About 50 per cent of its requirements are met by way of imports. This raw material is used by about 10,000 units in the small scale sector. LDPE is under OGL category of imports. However, these small scale units find it difficult to import the material because of sharp rise in prices and also limited availability in the international market during the last year. In order to give relief to the small scale units, Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited (IPCL) arranged for import of quantities to the extent possible through STC. To provide further relief in the matter of prices, IPCL introduced the concept of pooled prices both for their indigenous raw material as well as imported one and as a result they were able to make available the LDPE raw material to the consumers at a uniform price. Imported prices would have been much higher but for the concept of pooled prices adopted by IPCL. IPCL's price rise for their own product has been Rs. 21,300 to Rs. 26,300/MT however, the price to consumer which was Rs. 27,000/MT from October 1987 after pooling, had to be raised to Rs. 30,500/MT due to sharp rise in international prices.

Normally the consuming industry is not consulted on price revision in order to avoid

speculation and hoarding. However, IPCL has explained the concept of pooling of prices to the industry association.

As regards the distribution policy dated 23rd September, 1987, IPCL made best efforts to implement the same except when the imported material was not available in time or due to non-availability of certain grades in the international market. To improve the availability of raw material, the Government is continuously making efforts to supplement the indigenous production by imports to the extent possible.

[Translation]

**Opening of Public Call Offices
and telephone exchanges in
Uttar Pradesh**

10498. SHRI NIRMAL KHATTRI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state .

(a) the number of Public Call Offices, and telephone exchanges opened in Uttar Pradesh during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the norms laid down therefor;

(c) the district-wise number of rural areas in Uttar Pradesh in which P.C.Os and Telegraph Offices are proposed to be opened during the remaining period of the current Five Year Plan; and

(d) the names of the places in Faizabad and Barabanki districts in Uttar Pradesh where P.C.Os and Telegraph Offices have been opened in 1985, 1986, 1987 and upto March 1988 ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) 487 Public Call offices and 213 Exchanges have been opened in Uttar Pradesh during the 7th Plan upto 31.3.88.

(b) The policy for opening of Long Distance Public Telephones envisages for

the provision of telecom facility on fully subsidised basis at principal village in every inhabited geographical area bounded by a Hexagon of 5 Kms. sides.

A Telephone Exchange is opened for a registered demand of 5, 10, 23, and 46 with a capacity of 9, 25, 50 and 100 lines respectively subject to the availability of equipment.

(c) The information is given below in the Statement-I.

(d) The information is given below in Statement-II.

Statement-I

District-wise number of rural areas in U.P. proposed to be provided with PCOs during the remaining period of the 7th Five Year Plan. Telegraph facility on phonocom basis will be provided from PCOs which are opened in the Post Offices :

Name of District	No. of PCOs proposed to be opened during the remaining period of 7th Plan
Mathura	2
Faizabad	7
Hardoi	7
Shahjahanpur	8
Jalon	8
Jhansi	7
Mainpuri	7
Sitapur	5
Lakhimpur	7
Lalitpur	4
Itawa	6
Barabanki	4
Banda	2
Unnao	2

Hamirpur	2
Farakhabad	2
Gorakhpur	8
Sultanpur	9
Balia	5
Basti	8
Deoria	7
Mirzapur	8
Pratapgarh	6
Gonda	6
Raebrelli	6
Ghazipur	7
Fatehpur	7
Azamgarh	3
Pithoragarh	9
Pilibhit	9
Nainital	10
Bijnore	8
Almora	9
Moradabad	9
Badaun	7
Bareilly	9
Rampur	8
Aligarh	2
Muzzafarnagar	6
Pauri	11
Meerut	9
Tehrigarhwal	10
Dehradun	11
Chamoli	12
Uttarkashi	10
Saharanpur	11
Varanasi	8
Allahabad	5
Bulandshahar	7
Ghaziabad	8
Agra	8

Statement-II

The names of the places in Barabanki and Faizabad District where PCOs and Telegraph Offices (COs) have been opened in 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 up to March 1988 :

Name of District	Year	Name of Place	
Barabanki	1985-86	1. Barwara	
		2. Badwani	
	1986-87	1. Surajpur	
		2. Tejwapur	
		3. Kherakumkum	
		4. Sharifabad	
	1987-88	5. Omapur	
		1. Isroli	
		2. Sathemao	
		3. Malariganj	
	Faizabad	1985-86	1. Mundera
			2. Mahawari
3. Amolbujurg			
1986-87		1. Burmadpur	
		2. Daulatpur Jajal	
		3. Majakamaria	
1987-88		4. Rajapurpatti	
		1. Raiona	
		2. Pachia	
		3. Rajna	
		4. Bandipur	
			5. Mehraghat
			6. Hukampur
			7. Kasimpur

Power demand in Uttar Pradesh

10499. SHRI NIRMAL KHATTRI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the power requirement of Uttar Pradesh by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the gap between power generation capacity and power demand in Uttar Pradesh;

(c) how this gap will be bridged up;

(d) the time by which power generation in Tanda Thermal Power Project will be started; and

(e) the extent to which the gap between power generation and power demand will be bridged up on the commissioning of this project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) According to the 13th Annual Power Survey Report, the energy requirement and peak demand of Uttar Pradesh by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan are estimated at 25053 MU and 5251 MW respectively.

(b) The gap between power generation capacity and power demand (peaking deficit) in Uttar Pradesh by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan has been estimated at 1221 MW.

(c) The measures taken to bridge the gap in power demand and supply in Uttar Pradesh include expediting commissioning of new capacity, implementation of short-gestation projects, improving the performance of existing power stations, reducing transmission and distribution losses and implementation of demand management and energy conservation measures. Power supplies from Central Generating stations and neighbouring systems are also being arranged to the extent feasible

(d) and (e). The Tanda Thermal Power Station, Unit 1, has already been commissioned. Units 2-4 are expected to be commissioned in 1988-89/1989-90. On commissioning of these additional units of Tanda TPS, a capacity of 330 MW will be added to the Uttar Pradesh power system.

[*English*]

Energy plantation on sub-standard soil

10500. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI :
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any plan has been chalked out for energy plantation on sub-standard soil or waste land to augment the non-conventional energy sources; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has launched an all-India field level demonstration programme. Plantations of species particularly suitable for sub-standard soil or waste land and for energy purposes have been taken up in various States—Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. This programme is being implemented through State Nodal Agencies, Forest Departments, Universities, and Voluntary Agencies.

Reserves of crude oil in Bombay offshore

10501. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the approximate balance reserves of crude oil in Bombay offshore including the South Bassein fields;

(b) how long, the oil reserves may last if the exploration continues at the present ratio; and

(c) the steps taken to undertake survey of oil in the new areas and the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND

NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) :

(a) As on 1.7.87, balance recoverable reserves of crude oil in Bombay Offshore including South Bassein were estimated at 339.31 million tonnes.

(b) About 17 years; at the present rate of production. However, exploration is a continuous process and more reserves are expected to be added in future.

(c) ONGC has deployed two offshore vessels viz; MV Anveshak and Sagar Sandhani, for acquisition of seismic data and one vessel, Sagarika-II, for collecting geo-chemical information. In the next two years of the 7th Five Year Plan, it is proposed to acquire about 75,000 lkm 2D and 3D seismic data.

[*Translation*]

Telephone Connections to Exporters on priority basis

10502. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH :
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government provide telephone connections to the exporters on priority basis; and

(b) if so, the number of exporters provided telephone connections on priority basis during the past one year ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Foreign exchange earners like manufacturers of exportable goods, individuals, firms and organisations earning foreign exchange by way of services rendered; export houses and commercial organisations earning foreign exchange, can register for one telephone connection under 'OYT-Special' category, if they earn foreign exchange equivalent to atleast Rs. 2 lakhs in a year. They can register for more connections in 'OYT-Special' category depending upon the amount of their foreign exchange earnings. Telephone connections under 'OYT-Special' category

ore released on priority on availability of spare exchange capacity.

(b) No separate waiting list is maintained for the demands for telephone connections from exporters in the matter of allotment. It would, therefore, not be possible to give information on number of such applicants, who have been provided telephone connections during the past one year.

Computers in Central Telegraph Office, New Delhi

**10503. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI :
SHRI MANVENDRA
SINGH :**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Telegraph Office, New Delhi has been computerised;

(b) if so, the number of computers working in the Central Telegraph Office, New Delhi;

(c) the number of computers out of them lying out of order; and

(d) the steps taken to repair them ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : Yes Sir. Transmission of Telegrams has been partially computerised at Central Telegraph Office New Delhi to eliminate manual transmitting.

(b) Three—Micro Processor based Store and Forward Telegraph systems (SFT 141) have been installed at Central Telegraph Office, New Delhi.

(c) Nil All the three systems are in working order,

(d) Does not arise.

Trade Union Act for KVIC Employees

10504. SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Khadi and Village Industries Commission has superseded the Trade Unions Act, 1926 by their standing order No. 1418 dated 19 January, 1988;

(b) if so, whether Government have received any memoranda opposing the aforesaid order; and

(c) if so, the decision taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Khadi and Village Industries Commission have issued a Standing Order No 1418 dated 19.1.1988 reiterating, for the information of its employees, the provisions of regulation 3(?) and 13(ii) of KVIC Employees (CDA) Regulations 1961. Regulation 3(3) requires every employee of the Commission to observe regulation of procedure and other regulations framed by the Commission and also circulars and instructions issued by Competent Authorities from time to time. Regulation 13(ii) requires that no employee of the Commission shall resort to or in any way abet any form of strike in connection with any matter pertaining to his/her service or the service of any other employee of the Commission.

(b) and (c). Representations have been received by the Government against the Standing Order. The standing order issued by KVIC is in pursuance of KVIC employees (CDA) Regulations, 1961.

Checking of stitched items by KVIC

10505. SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the work relating to dying, printing, stitching etc. of

crores of rupees is got done every year from outside agencies by the sales establishments of Khadi and Village Industries Commission;

(b) if so, the details of the formalities required to be observed as per rules before getting such items of work done by outside agencies;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there is no proper arrangement for checking of the stitched items and for the testing of the dyed and printed items for their fast colours; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to take any effective steps for the improvement of quality of the items of work being done by these establishments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Khadi and Village Industries Commission has a Tender Committee for each sales departmental unit which invites and scrutinizes such tenders before assigning jobs to processors.

(c) The checking of stitched items is done on sample basis. It is also ensured that the contractors use quality material and fast colours for dyeing and printing.

(d) Does not arise.

Promotion policy of K.V.I.C.

10506 SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that no promotion policy has been formulated for the employees of Khadi and Village Industries Commission and its sales centres;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to issue directive to the Khadi and Village Industries Commission to initiate steps to

provide equal opportunities of promotion to its employees in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has a common policy of promotion for its regular and trading staff according to which 50 per cent of the vacancies except for the lowest posts in the cadre are filled in on the basis of seniority-cum-fitness. Talented employees are also provided with the opportunities for selection to higher posts. The Commission is identifying the total number of posts available with its various establishments where no promotional avenues are existing so that the matter could be examined by the Recruitment Committee.

Confirmation policy of Khadi and Village Industry Commission

10507. SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission has framed any rules etc. to confirm all categories of its employees; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). Khadi and Village Industries Commission has framed regulations according to which all employees of the Commission recruited against permanent vacancies shall be on probation for 12 months and all such employees recruited against temporary vacancies shall be on a period of trial for six months. Such period of probation or trial may be extended by six months in individual cases. After satisfactory completion of the trial period employees are to be continued in the temporary posts. Employees recruited against permanent vacancies are to be confirmed

therein after satisfactory completion of probation, provided that the employees have passed the prescribed Hindi Examination.

[English]

Setting up of sub-centre of Central Tool Room and Training Centre at Bhubaneswar

10508. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up a sub-centre of the Central Tool Room and Training Centre at Bhubaneswar;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of setting up the sub-Centre including the recurring cost;

(c) whether the project is proposed to be financed by the Danish Government; and

(d) the steps taken to implement the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) A proposal to set up a Tool Room at Bhubaneswar is under consideration of Govt. of India.

(b) Detailed cost of setting up of the centre is being worked out.

(c) Efforts are being made to obtain the assistance from Danish Government.

(d) A Danish Mission has recently appraised the proposal.

Electrification of villages

10509 SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the State where all the villages have been electrified;

(b) whether the Rural Electrification Corporation has impressed upon some States to electrify all the villages by the end of the Seventh Plan; and

(c) if so, the names of those States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Haryana, Punjab, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Gujarat (excluding 5 villages located in the protected forest areas) have achieved cent-percent village electrification.

(b) and (c). Concerted efforts are being made by the Government through REC to achieve cent-percent village electrification in the country speedily. All the villages in the country are expected to be electrified by the end of 8th Plan subject to availability of resources and other inputs. During the 7th Plan, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Gujarat have already achieved cent-percent village electrification. Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka and J and K are likely to achieve cent-percent electrification by the end of the 7th Plan.

Measures to improve performance by IDPL

10510. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL) had taken a series of measures to make up its losses and to improve its performance;

(b) if so, the extent of losses incurred by the IDPL during 1987-88; and

(c) the projection made by the IDPL for 1988-89 ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The provisionally estimated net loss incurred by IDPL during 1987-88 is Rs. 28.01 crores.

(c) IDPL has drawn a plan to achieve production and sales target of Rs. 210 crores and Rs. 194 crores respectively, during 1988-89. The projected net loss during 1988-89 is around Rs. 21.34 crores.

**Modernisation of thermal plants
by BHEL**

10511. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL) has taken steps to modernise some thermal plants in the country;

(b) if so, the names of thermal plants of which modernisation programme has been undertaken by the BHEL;

(c) the plant load factor of those plants; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) to (d). Renovation and Modernisation has been carried out by BHEL primarily in seven Thermal Plants. The names of these Plants and the extent of improvement are given below :

S. No.	Location of Thermal plants	P.L.F. before R & M (Average of 3 years)	P.L.F. after R & M (Average-April, 1987 to Jun. 88)
		%	%

1.	Faridabad	32	43.1
2.	Obra	36	52
3.	Harduaganj	32	39.1
4.	Gandhinagar	53	53.8
5.	Ukai	48	56.5
6.	Kothagudam	35	67.3
7.	Ennore	34	55.1

(R & M = Renovation and Modernisation)

**Experimental farming project
by Mathura Refinery**

10512. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mathura Refinery has started an experimental farming project to study the impact of the water from its plant on crops in the area;

(b) if so, what are the different programmes included in that project; and

(c) the results achieved so far ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

Statement

An Experimental farming project has been started by the Mathura Refinery in collaboration with Aligarh Muslim University to study scientifically the long term effect of using treated effluents from the Refinery on the yield and quality of crops and soil characteristics. The cultivation was started in September/October, 1987 and local crops like wheat and Berseem etc. are grown in 40 plots of 50 sq. mtr. each under different combinations of irrigants and fertilizers. The parameters related to growth, yield and quality of the crops are being monitored by the scientists of AMU. The soil characteristics will also be checked periodically.

The first wheat crop has been harvested only in April, 1988 and no adverse effect on the crop has been observed.

**Telecast of TV serial "Ramayana"
by Cable Tell**

10513. DR. B. L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indradhanush Channel of the Cable Tell, a multinational TV Company with viewers in United Kingdom and northern islands will telecast Indian epic serial "Ramayana" from June, 1988 and the three years contract would cover screening of 73 episodes in Hindi;

(b) the foreign exchange estimated to be earned by the Indian producer on this account; and

(c) whether the entire amount or part thereof will be repatriated to India and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) to (c). Such information about the serial "Ramayana" is not maintained as the Government have only its telecast rights on Doordarshan. All other rights including the foreign telecast rights vest with the producer, who is a private person.

[Translation]

Setting up of petrol/diesel pumps

10514. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that several retail outlets of diesel/petrol pumps are not being set up due to dispute in regard to land selection list, etc ;

(b) if so, the total number of such diesel/petrol pumps;

(c) whether the Indian Oil Corporation has issued licences to some persons despite their cases being pending in the court about land/selection list;

(d) if so, the number of such pumps in Uttar Pradesh, particularly in Lucknow, Basti and Gorakhpur districts; and

(e) the reasons for issuing licences to them for retail outlets ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : Yes, Sir.

(b) The oil industry has not been able to set up 65 retail outlet (petrol/diesel) dealerships in the country due to disputes regarding land/selection of candidates;

(c) to (e). Yes, Sir. The Indian Oil Corporation has issued Letters of Intent (LOIs) for seven locations, despite cases pending in the Courts about land or selection disputes, etc., in the State of Uttar Pradesh. Of the seven cases, two cases fall in district Basti and none in the districts of Lucknow and Gorakhpur. In all these cases, the LOIs were issued as there were no court stay orders nor were there legal impediments, and also after obtaining legal undertakings from these persons (dealer-select) for the purpose of safeguarding the interests of IOC.

[English]

Strike in Engineers India Limited

10515. SHRI D.P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether dissatisfaction in the form of strikes, non-cooperation, go-slow, etc, has been resorted to by the officers/employees of the Engineers India Ltd, during last years;

(b) if so, the major grievances of the officers of the Engineers India Limited; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) The officers resorted to lunch time demonstration and work to rule for some days during February and March, 1987. The workmen resorted to token strike, lunch time demonstration and relay hunger strike on some days during September and October, 1987.

(b) and (c). The major grievances of the officers of Engineers India Limited relate to revision of pay-scales, DA and other allowances/perquisites on the lines of 4th Pay Commission. Pursuant to the directions of the Supreme Court the matter of their pay revision etc. has already been referred to High Power Pay Committee.

Production of 1000 cc passenger Cars by Maruti Udyog Limited

10516. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD :
SHRI YASHWANTRAO
GADAKH PATIL :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Maruti Udyog Limited is planning to produce 1000 cc passenger cars with more seating capacity;

(b) if so, the details of the plan and the additional funds earmarked for the same; and

(c) the capacity of the new car and when it will be available in the market ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
(SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The proposal, which is under consideration of the Government, is to manufacture annually 30,000 3-Box Cars of 1000 cc engine capacity. It involves an investment of Rs. 97.9 crores. The requirement of funds will be met by additional equity from Suzuki Motor Company of Japan and from internal generation of resources of the Company. No financial support from Government is envisaged. The production is expected to commence after about two years from the date of approval of the Project.

Chemical producers guilty of restrictive trade practices

10517. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :
SHRIMATI BASAVARA-
JESWARI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether some chemical producers have been held guilty of restrictive trade practices in supplying Aluminium Phosphate fumigant to the Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, whether any of the employees of the Food Corporation of India have been found involved in it; and

(c) if so, what action Government have taken against them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Food Corporation of India Limited has informed that none of their employees is involved in it.

(c) Does not arise.

Perspective plan for Energy Development

10518. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated a twenty-year perspective plan for the energy development;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the State-wise break-up of the Central investment proposed to be made in the power sector in the coming three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). Government have not formulated a twenty-year perspective plan for energy development. A long-term power plan has been prepared by the Central Electricity Authority for the period upto 2000 A.D. The plan envisages a capacity addition of about 48000 MW and 62000 MW in the Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plans respectively.

(c) The State-wise break-up of the Central investment in the power sector in the next three years will be known when the Annual Plans are finalised.

Reserved Posts in Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Ltd.

10519. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the policy followed by the Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Ltd. Visakhapatnam for de-reservation of reserved posts;

(b) the total number of posts of executives and supervisors required to be reserved and actually filled by Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates and the details of posts de-reserved since 1 April, 1981 till date, post-wise and year-wise details thereof;

(c) whether management is observing relaxations to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates in promotions made to posts of executives and supervisors; and

(d) the details of complaints made by the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribe Uplift Union about caste discrimination in promotions made since 1 April, 1986 till date and the action taken thereon by the management ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) Bharat Heavy Plate and Vessels Ltd., Visakhapatnam, follows the policy of de-reservation of reserved posts as per directives issued by Government.

(b) From 1st April 1981 to 31st March 1988, 45 posts of executives and supervisors were reserved for Scheduled Casts candidates and 22 posts were reserved for Scheduled Tribe candidates. Against this, 32 posts were filled by Scheduled Caste candidates; and 6 posts were filled by Scheduled Tribe candidates. None of the reserved vacancies have been de-reserved so far,

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) From 1.4.1986, six representations on various aspects were received from the BHPV SC/ST Uplift Union and action as necessary was taken by BHPV.

Leather export by Bharat Leather Corporation

10520. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bharat Leather Corporation is dealing with export of leather and leather goods;

(b) if so, the total quantum of leather and leather goods exported by the Corporation in last three years;

(c) the other activities of the Corporation;

(d) whether the Corporation has taken steps to modernise leather industry; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The export figures are as follows :

	Figures in lakhs		
	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
	106.19	163.60	160.00 (Provisional)

(c) Other main activities of Bharat Leather Corporation are :

1) Marketing of footwear and leather products through retail outlets.

2) Bulk sales of footwear and leather products.

3) Providing infrastructure/material to shoe artisans under Package Assistance Scheme for fabrication of footwear.

4) **Manufacture of wooden shoe Lasts.**

(d) and (e). The Corporation is proposing to set up a Unit Sole Plant.

Hybrid Technology for Polyester Resins

10521. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to adopt some hybrid Technology in the field of polyester resins;

(b) whether the help of Norway has been sought for the above purpose;

(c) if so, the help extended/experiment made or demonstration shown by Norway in the above matter; and

(d) when such hybrid technology is proposed to be introduced in polyester resins ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d). M/s. Eastern Chemofarb Limited, Calcutta have a foreign collaboration with M/s. Jotun Polymer A.S. of Norway for the manufacture of Unsaturated Polyester Resin, including certain hybrid grades of such resins. The company has stated that the introduction of this technology in the country will depend upon the technological advancement of and the resultant demand by the user industries.

Distribution of power from Kalpakkam Atomic Power Station

10522. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the share of power from Kalpakkam Atomic Power Plant allocated to Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and other Southern States and the basis thereof;

(b) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has claimed a share of 100 MW out of the total installed capacity from Kalpakkam; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c). The allocation of power from the Kalpakkam Atomic Power Plant (2x235 MW) to the constituents of the Southern Region is as follows :

Tamil Nadu	350 MW
Andhra Pradesh	40 MW
Karnataka	30 MW
Kerala	25 MW
Pondicherry	5 MW
Unallocated	20 MW
	<hr/>
	470 MW
	<hr/>

The distribution of power from the Kalpakkam Atomic Power Station is based on the decision to allocate the entire output of the first unit and half of the output of the second unit to Tamil Nadu. The balance output of the second unit is earmarked for the neighbouring States in the Southern Region for distribution in accordance with the Central formula for sharing of power. The Andhra Pradesh authorities, who had requested for reviewing the matter, were informed of the position.

[Translation]

Floating of Shares by Private Companies

10523. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to take suitable action against those public or private

limited companies which even after giving notices in the newspapers about floating of shares of their companies for public subscription do not actually come in market with their public issue of equity shares and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) if so, the number of such cases which came to the notice of Government during the past three years and the action taken by Government against each such company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). If a public company gives notice in the newspapers about floating of shares of its company for public subscription but does not file a prospectus with the Registrar of Companies, no action can be taken under the Companies Act against the company for not actually coming into the market with its public issue.

A private company is prohibited by Section 3 (1) (iii) (c) of the Companies Act from making any invitation to the public to subscribe for any shares in, or debentures of, the company

11.48 hrs.

[English]

(Interruptions)

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU (Madras North): Sir, I have given a privilege notice against the Governor of Tamil Nadu. (Interruptions)

Dr S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN (Chengalpattu): Sir, I have given a privilege notice (Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): We have given adjournment notice. (Interruptions)

[Translator:]

MR. SPEAKER: You must go through the rules.

You must read the Rules before you give a notice.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Have you given the notice according to the Rules?

(Interruptions)

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: We have given a privilege motion against the Governor of Tamil Nadu (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will look into it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: When Sir? He himself has announced policy matter. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Look here. I will have to look into it. I cannot do it blind-folded.

(Interruptions)

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: Session is going on. How can he do it?

He announced policy matter involving fifteen crores of rupees. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a matter of privilege.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order.

(Interruptions)

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU (Madras North): The House is in session (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a matter of privilege. Over-ruled.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am doing it according to the rules.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : What are you doing ? Why are you interrupting ? I am speaking to him.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Look here, whatever you might say, but the things will go according to the rules. And according to the rules I have over-ruled it.

(*Interruptions*)**

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI (Ghosi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the new Railway Time-Table of 198 : the departure time of Rajdhani-Howra-102 is shown as 1610 hrs while it leaves at 0525 hrs. Similarly, the timing of Deluxe is also not correctly shown due to which many passengers missed their trains. I also missed Rajdhani and Deluxe and it caused me much inconvenience. Therefore, it may please be corrected

MR. SPEAKER : Kindly, give in writing. Mr. Tewary.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : I have given the floor to Mr. Tewary.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I have told you that I have over-ruled it. It is not a matter of privilege. It does not fall under the rules.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Do not argue with me now.

DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN : We are walking out.

**Not recorded.

(*At this stage, Dr. S. Jagathrakshakan, Shri N.V.N. Somu and some other Hon. Members left the House*)

PROF. K.K. TEWARY (Buxar) : I am raising a very important matter and I hope, you will give me one minute's time to formulate my views. The Constitution of India is the surest guarantee for India's unity and integrity.

MR. SPEAKER : Who disputes that ?

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : Separatist and seditious elements in Punjab want secession from India. They say that they do not recognise the authority of the Constitution of India. Can any national party or national leader say that talks can be held even outside the framework of the Constitution. This has been stated by a national leader. And we should remember that this Parliament and all political processes as also unity of India are creatures of the Constitution. I am sure. Prof. Dandavate does not subscribe to this view. But he has a chance on the floor of the House to say whether or not he supports the seditious demand to throw away the Constitution and demand of a separate homeland for a particular number of people. Mr. Chandrasekhar, the Janata Party leader, has said that the Constitution is not important and talks can be held even outside the framework of the Constitution.

MR. SPEAKER : I will have to find out.

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : Are we negotiating a second partition of India ?

MR. SPEAKER : Look here, this is something.

(*Interruption*)

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : Mr. Dandavate you have a chance to say whether you uphold the view of Mr. Chandrasekhar or you are not with them.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajpur) : I do not have to declare my loyalty to the Constitution... (*Interruptions*)

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : You must make your position clear.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Why do you allow him to cast aspersions on a party here ? ..(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : First of all, this is a paper report. Secondly, Mr. Chandrasekhar is not a member of this House. And I do not think,

(Interruptions)

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : His Party is represented in this House. Let this House know, let this country know ..(Interruptions) Why is Mr. Dandavate silent? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Saifuddin Choudhary ...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have listened to you and have given my ruling. Now, you please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed Mr. Choudhary.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I am not answerable to Mr. ...Tewary; I am answerable to the people ..(Interruptions) Keep quiet. Do not try to browbeat the Members (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Tewary, You are interrupting the proceedings. I have asked Mr. Choudhary to speak.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, he is browbeating the Members. What does he mean? Does he feel that we are his boughten Members?...

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Now you don't talk to him, you talk to me.

**Not recorded.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, you ask him to keep quiet...(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Please don't talk to him. He is not going on record.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Tewary, You are not going on record. I have allowed Mr. Chowdhary.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Tewary, will you let the House run or not now ?

(Interruptions)**

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, he wants to put everybody in the dock as if he is a Judge ..(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : What is he doing ? I don't like it.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Ask him to keep quiet, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : He is not allowed. I have not allowed him anything.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, he has taken my name ten times and asked me to give the explanation. Who is he to ask me for explanation ? Is he a Supreme Court Judge?

MR. SPEAKER : I have not allowed him.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Tewary, you are exceeding the limits now. It is not proper.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katwa) : Sir, I am raising a very important matter about the freedom of Press in our country...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER : No, not allowed.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Chowdhary, don't make a mockery of this. ...

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : What is the mockery, Sir? Is freedom of Press a mockery?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Chowdhary, this is the rules book. You must read it before....

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Freedom of Press is a right in the Constitution...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You must go according to the book and you have not read your book.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : You tell me, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, I will tell you. Come to me. Sit down now...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is irrelevant

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Mr. Speaker, Sir...*(Interruptions)*. Sir, will you please restrain them so that I can make my point?

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, please.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, I am raising a question connected with ter-

rorism. Please listen to my plea first. In this country, terrorism is increasing. The other day, the question of Haryana and Punjab was also raised. I have pointed out to you, In the *Observer* of London dated 24th April, the news has appeared and it has been confirmed that from Kabul. The Indian Airlines flight was...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER : No, not allowed.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot allow things without basis...

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : No, not allowed.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed like this. It is wrong, absolutely wrong.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : This is irrelevant

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : What is irrelevant, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER : It is irrelevant. I cannot go without facts. It is absolutely irrelevant.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Overruled, Sir...

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : I must get facts ...

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Now you are going in the steps of Mr. Tewary. You were condemning Mr. Tewary and now you are doing the same thing ...

*(Interruptions)***

**Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER : I will have to look into this matter. Without satisfying myself ..

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : I will have to get the facts and then do it...

*(Interruptions)***

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : One submission to you, Sir ...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER : No submission. Not allowed ..

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER ; You are doing the same thing which you have condemned in Mr. Tewary...

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : I say overruled. I am listening and I am not allowing you. I am to first find out the facts and then see.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Now you sit down.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Again you are doing the same thing.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : It is all right. Then sit down.

*(Interruptions)***

Mr. SPEAKER : Please take your seat...

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing doing...

(Interruptions)

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central) : Sir, I have given three Calling Attention notices...

(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : Does not matter. Calling Attention is not the business here. I cannot decide it here...

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : Sir, Prof. Madhu Dandavate has made a statement in Bombay that he will raise a resistance movement to oppose the Fifty-ninth Constitution (Amendment) Bill.....*(Interruptions)* Therefore, he has violated the oath that he has taken to protect the dignity of this House...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER : This is a democratic country...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, not allowed ...

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed ...

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : This is no way.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Does not matter.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Naik, overruled.

12.00 hrs.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Does not matter. It is not anything like that _

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Sir, he has violated the oath to uphold the Constitution...

MR. SPEAKER : Over-ruled.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : He has violated the Constitution very clearly. He has said that he is going to raise a Resistance Movement to oppose the 59th Constitution Amendment Bill. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Naik, why do you threaten like this? The Law will take its own course if he does it. No problem. What is the problem with you?

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Sir, you kindly give a fresh oath to him. He has violated the oath he has taken.

MR. SPEAKER : You are not going to teach me the rules in this regard I know what my job is.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Papers Laid on the Table. Shri Vengal Rao.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster (Registration and Processing of claims) Amendment Scheme, 1988 and Reviewed on the working of and Annual Report of Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Calcutta 1986-67.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
(SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster (Registration and Processing of Claims) Amendment Scheme, 1988 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 394 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th March, 1988, under sub-section (3) of section 9 of the Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster (Processing of Claims) Act, 1985.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6128/88]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—
 - (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1986-87.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6129/88]

Indian Telegraph (Second Amendment) Rules, 1988, Reviews on the working of and Annual Report of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam for 1986-87.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Indian Telegraph (Second Amendment) Rules, 1988 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G S R 361(E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st March, 1988 under sub-section (1) of section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-130/88]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, New Delhi for the year 1986-87.

(ii) Annual Report of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6131/88]

Liquified Petroleum Gas (Regulation of Supply and Distribution) Order 1988.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Liquified Petroleum Gas (Regulation of Supply and Distribution) Order 1988 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G S R 475(E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st April, 1988 under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act 1955.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6132/88]

Notifications under Customs Act, 1962 and Central Excise Rules 1944.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : On behalf of Shri Ajit Panja, I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Notification No. G S R. 477(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th April, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to specified medical equipments including spare and accessories thereof, when imported into India by a Non Resident Indian from payment of basic customs duty in excess of 20 per cent *ad valorem* and the whole of the additional duty of customs leviable thereon subject to the conditions stipulated in the notification under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6133/88]

- (2) A copy of the notification No. G.S.R. 454(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th April, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 84/87 Central Excises dated the 1st March, 1987 so as to allow the benefit of proforma credit under Rule 56A, to the duty paid snuff falling under sub-heading 2-04.50 used in the manufacture of Creamy Snuff falling under sub-heading 2404.90 issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-6134 88]

Notification under Coal Mines Provident Fund and Misc. Provisions Act 1948 and Coal Mines Provident Fund (Second Amendment) Scheme, 1988 etc. etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : I beg to lay on the

Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 7A of the Coal Mines Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1948 :—

- (1) The Coal Mines Provident Fund (Second Amendment) Scheme 1988 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 237 in Gazette of India dated the 2nd April, 1988.
- (2) The Andhra Pradesh Coal Mines Provident Fund (Second Amendment) Scheme, 1988 published in Notification No. 238 in Gazette of India dated the 2nd April, 1988.
- (3) The Rajasthan Coal Mines Provident Fund (Second Amendment) Scheme, 1988 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 236 in Gazette of India dated the 2nd April, 1988.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6135/88]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF
INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :
On behalf of Shri Eduardo Faleiro, I beg to
lay on the Table —

- (1) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under article 151(1) of the Constitution :—

- (i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1986-87—Union Government (Other Autonomous Bodies).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6136/88]

- (ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for year 1986-87—Union Government (Delhi Administration).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6137/88]

- (iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1986-87—Union Government (Revenue Receipt—Indirect Taxes).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6138/88]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980 :—

- (i) The Oriental Bank of Commerce (Officers') Service Regulations, 1982.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6139/88]

- (ii) The Vijaya Bank (Officers') Service Regulations, 1982.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6140/88]

- (iii) The Corporation Bank (Officers') Service Regulations, 1982.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6141/88]

- (iv) The Andhra Bank (Officers) Service Regulations, 1982.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6142/88]

- (v) The New Bank of India (Officers') Service Regulations, 1982.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6143/88]

- (3) A copy each of the Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the State Bank of India and its subsidiary Banks viz. State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, State Bank of Hyderabad, State Bank of Indore, State Bank of Mysore, State Bank of Patiala, State Bank of Saurashtra and State Bank of Travancore for the year ended the 31st December, 1987 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Reports thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 40 of the State Bank of India Act, 1955 and sub-section (3) of section 43 of the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6144/88]

- (4) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (8) of section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and

Transfer of Undertakings) Acts, 1970 and 1980 :

- (i) Report on the working and activities of the Allahabad Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1987 along with Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6145/88]
- (ii) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of India for the year ended the 31st December, 1987 along with Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6146/88]
- (iii) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of Maharashtra for the year ended the 31st December, 1987 along with Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6147/88]
- (iv) Report on the working and activities of the Canara Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1987 along with Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6148/88]
- (v) Report on the working and activities of the Central Bank of India for the year ended the 31st December, 1987 along with Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6149/88]
- (vi) Report on the working and activities of the Dena Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1987 along with Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6150/88]
- (vii) Report on the working and activities of the Syndicate Bank

for the year ended the 31st December, 1987 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

- [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6151/88]
- (viii) Report on the working and activities of Union Bank of India for the year ended the 31st December, 1987 along with Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6152/88]
- (ix) Report on the working and activities of the UCO Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1987 along with Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6153/88]
- (x) Report on the working and activities of the Andhra Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1987 along with Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6154/88]
- (xi) Report on the working and activities of the Corporation Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1987 along with Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6155/88]
- (xii) Report on the working and activities of the New Bank of India for the year ended the 31st December, 1987 along with Accounts and Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6156/88]
- (xiii) Report on the working and activities of the Oriental Bank of Commerce for the year ended the 31st December, 1987 along with

Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6157/88]

- (xiv) Report on the working and activities of the Vijaya Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1987 along with Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6158/88]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy of the Companies Unpaid Dividend (Transfer to General Revenue Accounts of the Central Government) (Amendment) Rules, 1988 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 363(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd March, 1988 under sub-section (3) of section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6159/88]

- (2) A copy of the Half-Yearly Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Coir Board, Ernakulam, for the period from 1st April, 1987 to 30th September, 1987, under section 19 of the Coir Industry Act, 1953.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6160/88]

- () A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 :

- (i) The Electrical Appliances (Quality Control) Order, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 356(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th March, 1988.

- (ii) G.S.R. 357 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th March, 1988 rescinding Notifi-

cation No. G.S.R. dated the 8th April, 1987.

- (iii) G.S.R. 358 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th March, 1988 making certain amendments to Notification No. S.O. 797 (E) dated the 12th November, 1981.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-6161/88]

Budget estimate of the Damodar Valley Corporation for 1988-89 etc. etc. and a statement showing reasons for delay in laying these papers on table.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : On behalf of Smt. Sushila Rohtagi, I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy of the Budget Estimates (Hindi and English versions) of the Damodar Valley Corporation for the year 1988-89 under sub-section (1) of section 44 of the Damodar Valley Corporation Act, 1948.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6262/88]

- (2) (i) A copy of Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Punjab State Electricity Board for the year 1985-86 under sub-section (1) of section 75 of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6163/88]

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Financial Statement Incorporating 1986-87 (Actuals) 1987-88 (Budget/ Revised Estimates) and 1988 89 (Budget Estimates) (Hindi and English versions) of the Punjab State Electricity Board.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6'64/88]

- (3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in

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laying the papers mentioned at (2)
above.

[Placed in Library. See No, LT-6163 and
6164/88]

there and the Government of India will have
to deal with it and they will deal with it
under the Constitution. We have no author-
ity to discuss the Chief Minister here.

(Interruptions)

12.02 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
ASSURANCES

[English]

Eleventh Report

SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR (Kutch) :
I beg to present the Eleventh Report (Hindi
and English versions) of the Committee on
Government Assurances.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF
MEMBERS FROM THE SIT-
TINGS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

Twelfth Report

CH. RAM PRAKASH (Ambala) : I beg
to present the Twelfth Report (Hindi and
English versions) of the Committee on
Absence of Members from the Sittings of
the House.

Interruptions

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA
(Hassan) : Sir, it is a very important
matter. The Chief Minister of Karnataka
Shri Hegde, is trying to... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What I can do ? We
cannot discuss the Chief Minister.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We cannot discuss
the Chief Minister here. The Constitution is

12.03 hrs

LOKPAL BILL

[English]

*Extension of time for presentation of
Report of Joint Committee*

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : I beg to
move :

"That this House do further extend
upto the last day of the Monsoon
Session, 1988, the time for presenta-
tion of the Report of the Joint Com-
mittee on the Bill to provide for the
appointment of a Lokpal to inquire
into allegations of corruption against
Union Ministers and for matters
connected therewith"

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do further extend
upto the last day of the Monsoon
Session, 1988, the time of presenta-
tion of the Report of the Joint Com-
mittee on the Bill to provide for the
appointment of a Lokpal to inquire into
allegations of corruption against Union
Ministers and for matters connected
therewith."

The motion was adopted.

12.03½ hrs.

BHARAT PETROLEUM CORPORATION
LIMITED (DETERMINATION OF
CONDITIONS OF SERVICE OF
EMPLOYEES) BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NA-

TURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to empower the Central Government to determine the conditions of service of the officers and employees of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and for matters connected therewith.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to empower the Central Government to determine the conditions of service of the officers and employees of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and for matters connected therewith.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : I introduce the Bill.

12.04 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*Translation*]

- (i) Need to take steps to protect the agricultural labour from exploitations.

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI (Bilhar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, our country is basically an agricultural country but despite making lot of progress in scientific and technical fields it has not achieved the desired standard in agriculture. Consequently, most of the farming in our country is done in a traditional way even today and the agricultural labour is exploited. Undue advantage is taken of the unemployment problem in the country, and the agricultural labour is forced to work extra hours while they are not paid even the minimum wages prescribed by the Government. As the agricultural labour engaged in the agricultural sector are illiterate and unorganised, they are not able to

raise their voice collectively against this exploitation.

Therefore, I request the Government to take effective steps to protect them from exploitation and if required, a Central legislation should be enacted in this regard.

[*English*]

- (ii) Need to improve the functioning of telephone system in Calcutta.

✓ **KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE (Jadavpur) :** Telephone Exchanges at Calcutta are in very pitiable condition. Calls do not materialise for hours and exaggerated bills are presented to the consumers. There is also a long waiting list for the telephone connections. The functioning of Calcutta Telephone Exchange could be seen from its Telephone Directory which has lot of mistakes.

I urge upon the Union Government to take necessary steps to improve the working of Calcutta Telephone Exchanges by toning up the administration and posting efficient technicians.

[*Translation*]

- (iii) Need to properly utilise uncultivated land in Chambal region of Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV (Morena) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, many rivers like Chambal, Kunwari, Asan, Saak Kuno, Parvati etc. flow through Chambal region of Madhya Pradesh. These rivers have rendered lakhs of hectares of land uncultivable due to soil erosion which is still continuing. The Government have formulated a scheme of spraying seeds in this region and have spent crores of rupees on it but all that money has gone waste. Had this money been spent on planting trees, the poor people would have got jobs and assets worth crores of rupees would have been created. I, therefore, request the Government that the land should either be distributed among the landless farmers or useful trees like Mango, tamarind, Jo shun, Mausammi, oranges, cashewnuts,

* Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 10-5-88.

rosewood, teak, eucalyptus, neem etc. should be planted there. By making these arrangements the Government will have assets worth crores of rupees, the unemployed persons will get jobs and it will also reduce the intensity of drought in this region.

[English]

- (iv) Need to include Sonapat (Haryana) in the National Capital Region.

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK (Sonapat) : District headquarters Sonapat is big industrial town of Haryana which is situated only about forty kms. from Delhi. It is a fast developing town and requires proper planning in all respects. The other towns situated far away from Delhi, like Panipat, Mathura, Alwar, Rewari and Rohtak have been included in the National Capital Region whereas Sonapat has not been included in National Capital Region. About forty thousand people daily come from Sonapat to Delhi to attend their offices and other business concerns. It is, therefore, requested that Sonapat Town of Haryana be included in National Capital Region to check haphazard and unplanned growth of this area.

[Translation]

- (v) Need to introduce question papers in regional languages in competitive examinations.

SHRI AKHTAR HASAN (Kairana) : I want to draw the attention of the Government towards the compulsory English paper and English medium in All India Competitive Examinations and Admission Tests held for Engineering Colleges and Technological Institutes. Even after forty years of independence, students of our country are forced to learn English language and as a result only the students belonging to the well-to-do families are able to pass the aforesaid examinations whereas most of the students belonging to the rural and backward areas are not able to clear these examinations due to their poor knowledge of English language. According to the survey of NCERT only seven per cent students study English and the remaining 93 per cent students study in Hindi and other regional languages in the whole country. Last year 90 per cent of English medium students qualified in I.I.T. examinations while 93 per

cent students studying Hindi and regional languages could get only ten per cent seats in it. Besides, All India Examinations such as National Defence Academy, All India Premedical Test, FMC, Puna, Indian Forest Services, there are several other examinations in which English paper is of 150 marks and is compulsory, though there is no need of it along with science subjects and a Question Paper in Hindi and other regional languages can be substituted in its place. This should be done because it is very difficult for the students to complete these examinations after studying upto class 12th in Hindi and regional medium.

Keeping in view these problems I, therefore, request to the Government that English paper should not be compulsory in such examinations but it should be made optional in the interests of the regional students and the candidates should be allowed to opt for Hindi or their own regional language so that every citizen of the country may be able to compete in all important examinations like Civil Services etc.

[English]

- (vi) Need to construct a bridge over Brahmaputra river near Dibrugarh in Assam.

SHRI M. R. SAIKIA (Nowgong) : Sir, Duliajan and Naduwa are two important Indian Army base-stations in Upper Assam. Troop movement from this area to far-flung Chinese border in Arunachal Pradesh used to be done *via* Guwahati which has now been switched *via* Kalia Bhomaraguri over Brahmaputra river near Tezpur. The army has to travel approximately 500 kms. from these bases to reach their destination. The entire North bank of Brahmaputra river and Arunachal Pradesh is very much backward in all spheres *viz.*, trade commerce and industry, as the area is not connected with any major town of Assam. Guwahati is more than 500 kms. by road. In case there is a direct road-link through a bridge over the Brahmaputra, near Dibrugarh town, it will be only 100 kms. from North Lakhimpur and 150 kms. from Itanagar.

Therefore, I urge upon the Central Government to take initiative for construction of a bridge near Dibrugarh over the

Brahmaputra river which would go a long way for development of this region.

- (vii) Need to probe the disappearance of some people from Meerut during 1987 riots.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the United Nations Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances has transmitted to the Government of India a communication relating to thirty allegedly enforced or involuntary disappearances from in and around Meerut on May 22, 1987, i.e. during the last riots in Meerut. This has been admitted by the Government in reply to my Unstarred Question No. 7560 on 20th April, 1988. The Government of Uttar Pradesh has instituted enquiries in the matter. As the matter and the alleged circumstances of enforced disappearances are rather serious and have also attracted international attention, I urge upon the Government that inquiries be instituted by Central agencies, preferably by the CBI and action be taken against those responsible for the said disappearances and full compensation be given to the next of kith and kin.

[Translation]

- (viii) Need to include 'Rajbhar' and 'Gond' (Kahar) Communities in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI (Ghosi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a large population of 'Rajbhar' community in Uttar Pradesh and adjoining States and most of the persons belonging to this community are landless and illiterate. Their economic condition is very pitiable. They have not been provided any reservation of any other facilities. Keeping in view their economic and social condition there has been a long standing demand for decades that they should be benefited by providing them the facilities of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and thus their standard of living should be uplifted. The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has recommended on 26th May, 1982 that the persons belonging to

this community should be provided the facilities of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes but despite this and also my submissions in the House the Central Government has not taken any action. The condition of 'Gond' (Kahar) community living in Eastern Uttar Pradesh is also somewhat similar. They are not provided the facilities, benefits and certificates which are available to this community in other States and Commissionaries thereby causing great resentment among them. From 17th April to 21st April, persons belonging to 'Rajbhar' community had drawn the attention of the Government by staging a 'dharna' at the Boat club New Delhi.

I, therefore, request the Government to include 'Rajbhar' and 'Gond' (Kahar) community residing in the districts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes so that these communities could also enjoy the facilities which are available to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

— — —

12.17 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

[English]

Defence Minister's statement of 21.4.1988
Re. Allegation of payment of Commission to Indian Agents in connection with purchase of submarines from M/s. HDW of Federal Republic of Germany

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I heard the debate very patiently and I requested my Hon. friends to give me a patient hearing also and I am glad that yesterday even Prof. Dandavate seemed to react to this suggestion favourably. I made a detailed statement in the House on 21st April, 1988 and there I went into some detail about the sequence of events which are related to the acquisition of submarines from the HDW in the year, 1981, nearly 6½ years ago and I also informed the House about the inquiries conducted, about the

outcome of the inquiries and about the investigative agencies and the correspondence which the Government of India undertook both with the FRG Government and the HDW. All those pertinent matters were raised by me and were answered by me in that particular statement. Some Hon. Members have quoted from that statement. I find, by and large, that there has not been any serious objection with regard to that statement. But, nevertheless, there have been some points made, some misgivings have been expressed, some doubts have not been cleared and it is my duty to the House and to the Hon. friends who have spoken, as far as possible to clear those doubts and to remove those misunderstandings so far as they are relevant.

The fact of the matter is that the acquisition of submarines as such is not in dispute. The need for India to have submarines is acknowledged. The intervention of Gen. Sparrow—I don't find him here today—was I thought necessary in the debate in order to introduce a dimension which otherwise would not have been mentioned namely, the geo-strategic compulsions, the other military considerations which are pertinent as a background of this issue, as to the need as well as urgency of acquiring submarines and I think many Hon. Members referred to the fact that the process began early in 1979, even earlier than 1979. I make this point because all of us sitting on both sides of this House are equally interested in the defence preparedness of this country; all of us are vitally interested in seeing that our armed forces are well-equipped and I, for one, have never claimed a monopoly of patriotism. I am a little disappointed when anybody on the other side claims a monopoly of honesty. I think a certain amount of mutual understanding is essential for the functioning of Parliamentary Democracy. When I respond to the debate, it is in that spirit and accepting the *bona fides* of the points that have been made, accepting the fact that on both sides of the House, we are interested in seeing to it that we have a clean public life that we purchase weapons and equipment which are needed at the right price, of the right quality and if there is any hanky-panky anywhere, we are equally interested in exposition the guilty and punishing him.

This has to be the basic frame within which this discussion takes place. But if I discuss it from a point of view of scoring a few debating points and you discuss it from the point of view of presuming the Government guilty before you start to speak then, I am afraid, this discussion loses all direction and perhaps the constructive aspect of the debate will be lost in total polemics. Therefore, it is in that spirit that I approach it.

Sir, throughout, my friends opposite referred to the so-called telex of 24th February and they complained that the Government is suppressing the truth and has not dared to disclose the telex. This is what they said. This was the coded message received from our Ambassador in Bonn. That was the starting point, in fact, of this entire issue. I think, some Hon. Member stood up to correct another Hon. Member and said: "No. This message has been placed on the Table of the House". The fact is that this message has been placed verbatim on the Table of the House, I think Shri Bipin Pal Das corrected the gentleman who was speaking. So, this has been tabled by us.

One of the points which has to be noted is that one of these two Members who referred to the telegram not being placed on the Table of the House was Shri Somnath Chatterjee. I think he was looking perhaps for the Cipher Code reference. That has been removed for obvious reasons. We do not want our Cipher Codes to be known. The text of the message is verbatim there, I have known Shri Chatterjee for a long time. I have had the pleasure of also listening to his father in this House. Sir, he is a careful man and it is his profession to scrutinise papers carefully. He is a Lawyer and a good Lawyer at that. So, now he misses a basic document on which the whole edifice of this debate is built, on which he builds up a case thereafter and he fails to notice that the Government has already given him this piece of information and tabled this document. I would like to ask him one thing. Suppose he has missed this document—it is possible. He scrutinised but he could not locate the document or he missed it altogether and such things can happen. But then, he jumps to the

conclusion that the Government is interested in suppressing the truth. I don't say this out of any rancour. I say this because even in the most obvious cases of *bona fides* on our part, the obvious thing would have been for Shri Chatterjee to say: "Why didn't the Government table this? This is an important document. I am surprised it has not tabled it" But he suspects our *bono fides*. So, having missed it, he jumps to the conclusion that there is *mala fide* involved; he jumps to the conclusion that suspicion is warranted; he jumps to the conclusion that this is a suppression of truth. Therefore, my request to my Hon. friends is this. Do not start by reaching a conclusion and then look for evidence. If you start by reaching a conclusion and then go backwards, then everything becomes suspect and everything does not fall within the parameters of the case that you have built up yourselves and if it does not correspond to that, then your tendency is to reject it out of hand. So, my earnest appeal to you is not to approach these matters in that spirit but to approach them with an objective mind, with an open mind, and to see how far it is warranted to reach the conclusions with which you have started. Otherwise, I am very much afraid of suspicious being taken for facts, being substituted for evidence, and it will be a sad day when we in this House, leave aside the country at large, begin to suspect each other and air those suspicions without having a solid base. I do not, for one minute, say that you spare anybody who is guilty, but I do say with all the strength at my command that the day we take suspicions for evidence, we distort the entire system of justice in this country. Not only that, we distort the basis of the relationship between us in this House. That is more important than even the first point because we have to make this democracy work together; it is not our responsibility alone; we may have a majority; but you count—and we want you to count—in the country. Together we have to make this work and for that purpose I make this point to you that we cannot afford to allow people to have wrong notions on these basic issues before us.

A point was made that the Prime Minister's office got a copy of this telex or this message but did not take any action

on it. The usual manner in which these messages are treated is that the Ministry concerned deals with them I think, perhaps, the Prime Minister's office may be getting a hundred message a day, coded messages. Ordinarily, whichever Ministry gets it deals with it. In this case it was addressed to the Defence Secretary with a copy of the Raksha Mantri—and one copy went to the Prime Minister—and what is more, action was taken on it in the Defence Ministry. So, in the normal course, once a policy is laid down—and in this case there was the policy of having direct negotiations with the foreign suppliers.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar): It was not an ordinary message. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI K. C. PANT: Once the general policy is laid down, then there is no occasion, there is normally no occasion, for the Prime Minister or his office to intervene in individual cases. This happens. Those of you who have been in the Government know this because you know the volume of papers we have to deal with every day I am sure Prof. Dandavate remembers very well.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: It is the importance of the message which matters. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI K. C. PANT: Those of my friends who have not been in the Government will, I hope, one day, come to learn about it in their respective States. Here I do not see much chance of their coming.

The Defence Secretary had advised the FRG Ambassador as early as November 15, 1985, about the need for direct negotiations with the foreign suppliers. This point was specifically raised by Shri Rao yesterday. He said that the Government communicated to the FRG Government. Therefore, I am just mentioning this. That is all.

Some friends raised the question of this message having been received in February and our Aide Memoire having gone to the FRG Government and our letter having

gone to the HDW in June. And they asked why there was delay. Now, where is the question of delay? I, in my earlier statement, gave a sequence of events. Now, their point is: what were the steps that we took and what was the course of action we adopted in looking into this matter? Where did it start? It started with this particular message. Then it came up to the then *Raksha Mantri* and he ordered that three enquiries should be held. Now, all those dates are given in my earlier statement. If you care to go through it, dates are given as some time in March and so on. There is nothing concealed. It is all open. You can go into the document. I have my statement here. But if I read it out here, again it will take a long time. The dates are given.

The point is that even though he was in the Defence Ministry, those orders that he issued were in relation to the agencies in the Finance Ministry. That is only a technical point. I don't make it. It is not relevant to the main thrust of the point that we are discussing. The point is that he wanted some enquiries to be made. He left the Government. The Government could have taken a view saying, "no, we will consult our Ambassador and finish. We need not hold the inquiry. We need not ask these agencies to go into it. I will come to you and say: all right, this is the inquiry and this is the result and we don't feel it is necessary to have any other inquiry." The Government did not take that position. The Government said: "no, the then Defence Minister may not be there but we will order an inquiry as he wanted." And all the inquiries were ordered. It was communicated to the Finance Ministry. Those inquiries were held and the details are given in my statement. So, I would like to make a point quite clear that the inquiries which he wanted were conducted, were carried out by the investigative agencies which he had specified in those orders.

The other point is that having made those inquiries, I think, you won't want me to read it. But on page 5, I have given all the details about different agencies which conducted the inquiries. Then, we found and I have stated it very frankly that the investigative agencies of the Finance Ministry were not able to make much headway. I

have said it on page 6 of my statement. Now, once again, we could have come to the House and said: "sorry, the Finance Ministry agencies could not make much headway, what can we do. Therefore, here, the matter is closed." We didn't say that, we didn't do that. This Government was very much interested in getting at the truth. We are not interested in suppressing the truth as some Hon. Members have alleged. And instead of that, we involved the CBI. We said: "no, let the CBI look into it also." The CBI was not asked to enquire by the former *Raksha Mantri*. We introduced CBI. CBI held its own inquiries. Then we said: "Let the inter-ministerial team be sent to the FRG and to the UK so that they could pursue the matter there also." And we sent this team and I will indicate later what was the constitution of that team. And it is this team that came to certain conclusions. And ultimately, we have, on the basis of the entire facts, reached to some conclusions which were in my statement.

Now, the Government obviously took the step of approaching the HDW and the FRG Government also. The way this case was presented by some Hon. Members, they seem to suggest that the Government were content only with getting the version of the HDW and leaving it at that. We have asked the HDW. The HDW has said something and the Government is content to stay with that and not to enquire further, not to make its own inquiry. You will have seen from the facts that are placed before you that the facts are very different, that we did employ our own agencies. Apart from HDW, we consulted the FRG and the FRG Government, the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany was involved very much in this, because this is a public sector company and they own this—75% or something; I have given those figures also somewhere. So all these facts have to be seen together.

While I don't want to again take the time of the House on this, I think that in the light of what has been said here it is necessary for me to make it clear by reading out a few extracts.

Take the Aide Memoire of 12th June which was sent to the FRG Government. In the last sentence what has been said is that ;

"The Government of India, therefore, would impress upon the Government of FRG to make known to the Indian Government that fullest details of any commissions paid, to whom, when and for what services, and whether such agreement still subsists."

There was no attempt to water it down or to dilute, to put any different constructions on it. In fact, at the beginning of that para we said :

"It will be seen that Dr. Molitor had made a very definite statement to the Ambassador of India in Bonn on February 24, 1987, that a seven per cent commission was payable to Indian agents at HDW under the terms of an open-ended agreement."

So there was no attempt to push anything under the carpet. What can be clearer than this ?

Then something has been quoted by some Hon. Members from the letter sent to the Chairman of the HDW on 27th June by the Defence Secretary. I don't want to read out the whole thing.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katwa) : What is the reply of the FRG Government ?

SHRI K.C. PANT : I think I am being quite polite and I am being clear in what I am saying. If my friend has patience, I think the whole matter will come before him clearly. (*Interruptions*)

I quote from the letter of June 27. Para 3 :

"In the aforesaid context, we call on your Company to furnish us complete information regarding the agreement which has been entered by you with Indian agents and specifically in regard to the following aspects :

- (i) the precise amounts which have been paid and the amounts which are due to be paid by you by way of commission, secret payment, etc.

along with dates, places and modes of payments.

- (ii) Full details of the recipients of such payments, whether they be persons or Companies, and in the case of latter, their Proprietors/Presidents/Directors and place of incorporation.
- (iii) The services rendered by such persons/Companies with reference to which such amounts have been paid/are due to be paid.
- (iv) Copies of the contracts, agreements and correspondence between your Company and such recipients.
- (v) All other facts, circumstances and details relating to these transactions, in your possession."

I would not have taken the trouble to read all this out again; but for the fact that we are charged of suppressing the truth, I put this before you and I ask you to improve upon this; any one of you make a suggestion that improves upon the question that we have posed. One improvement and I am prepared to take any suggestion.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : We cannot improve upon the questions. It is a part of suppression..... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. PANT : I will read another letter which we sent to HDW; that also I will quote. What it says in Para 4 is :

"Questions regarding the alleged payment of commission to an Indian agent by your Company have been raised in our Parliament and the issue has developed into an important public debate."

"... It is the responsibility of our Government to establish the truth and initiate appropriate action against those who have infringed the laws of the country. We expect that HDW adequately appreciating in the situation will cooperate fully and furnish complete facts in respect of the ques-

tions asked in para 3(1) to (v) of my letter of June 27, 1987."

appreciate your most urgent assistance in the matter."

Finally in para 5 it says :

"We trust that your company will do nothing which may jeopardise our future business relations and supply the requisite information on the most immediate basis."

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO (Parvathipuram) : Sir, may I ...

SHRI K.C. PANT : No. (*Interruptions*)

Now, Sir, Shri Somnath Chatterjee gets very irritated when somebody interrupts him and he has the habit of smiling when somebody else is interrupted.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Belpur) : Is there any ban on smiling ? He should appreciate instead of interrupting ..

SHRI K.C. PANT : I appreciate it when he smiles but when he starts giggling I do not appreciate it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : When I was interrupted yesterday he was also enjoying. He never stopped his Members. Please go through the record of yesterday's debate.

SHRI K.C. PANT : I did not interrupt you. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Order. It is enough.

SHRI K.C. PANT : Now, Sir, this is a letter to the State Secretary, Ministry of Defence again by the Defence Secretary. This letter is dated 28 September, 1987. In para 5 it says :

"I request your personal intervention to ensure that complete information is supplied to us in respect of all the Indian/Foreign agents involved and services rendered by them, details of the payments made, due to be made by HDW and whether such arrangement still subsists. We shall greatly

This is the extent to which we went in trying to secure the information from FRG and from HDW. This should establish to those who are objective that in this matter the Government has certainly gone to the fullest extent to get the information. That is why I quoted extensively from this and, I think, any fairminded person will say 'yes' unless he has reached different conclusions for different reasons. He will say that this was a very fair way of going about it. You have made strenuous efforts. If he is fair enough he would say we appreciate the efforts made by the Government.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : It is an exercise in self-congratulations.

SHRI K.C. PANT : Several references have been made to the statement attributed to Dr. Molitor and conveyed by our Ambassador. Naturally this is an important aspect of the whole matter. Many Hon. Members have referred to the mis-understanding and they say what mis-understanding could have arisen. Now one Hon. Member even went to the extent of doubting whether Dr. Molitor was questioned. He raised the issue : Has he been questioned ? I would refer him to para 15 of my statement wherein it is clearly mentioned that discussions were held by the investigative agencies with Dr. Molitor. The inter-Ministerial team deputed abroad by the Government of India duly examined Dr. Molitor during their visit to Bonn.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : What did he say ?

SHRI K.C. PANT : I will tell you what he said. Now what was the team ? The team led by CBI included the Director Enforcement, Director Inspection, Income Tax, Ministry of Finance and Joint Secretary Navy. These were the people. CBDT was there, Income-tax people investigative branch as well as Directorate of Enforcement branch. Dr. Molitor denied having said anything to our Ambassador about alleged payment of commissions. This is what you wanted to know and this is what the team

has reported to us. *(Interruptions)* They had held discussions with him and this is the report. *(Interruptions)*

Sir, I assert. I am not yielding.

MR. SPEAKER : This is something... You are doubting your own Government.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : He is attributing a statement to Dr. Molitor which is not to be found in records.

MR. SPEAKER : He is stating the facts which he has with him.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Statement of Dr. Molitor is not to be found on record anywhere.

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. No, sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Doesn't matter, you see, whatever agency is here.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, we cannot charge him like that.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It cannot be coming out of the hat. Mr. Reddy, this is not the proper way.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Where is Dr. Molitor's statement on record ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You are transgressing every limit of parliamentary norms.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K.C. PANT : This was asked. *(Interruptions)* Shri Kishore Chandra S. Deo should know that a question was raised in

this House. It is not as though I have come forward with something on my own. A pointed question was raised. Therefore, I sought to give a reply, Are you blaming me for it ?

SOME HON. MEMBERS : No, no.

SHRI K.C. PANT : Then where is the question.....*(Interruptions)*. As the Speaker has said, I have gone by the material with me. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No running debate.

SHRI K.C. PANT : If the fact is not convenient to you, even then, I have to go by the facts with me. *(Interruptions)* Yesterday, some friends had expressed lack of clarity about the letter received by Dr. Molitor on February 24, 1987 from the Indian Embassy. While I have tabled all the documents, I would like, once again, to repeat the sequence of events replying to our aide memoire of June 12. The FRG Government replied as follows :

"With regard to the remarks by a member of the Federal Defence Ministry staff, which were referred to in the memorandum of June 12, 1987, Dr. Molitor stated that on February 24, 1987, he had received without comment a letter from the Indian Ambassador concerning the Indian position on commission payment that was paid to any Indian or non-Indian agents in India or abroad."

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : What was the misunderstanding ?

SHRI K.C. PANT : I shall come to the misunderstanding part also. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Chatterjee, will you take your seat ?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : He says vital matter. You appreciate vital matter. But our doubts are not cleared.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Chatterji, that is not good on your part.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : What is not good ?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Please ask him what is good ?

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Reddy, what you do is good. You are the lone angel here.

[*English*]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : I am merely a man, Sir. This is better than angel.

MR. SPEAKER : This is what, I think, we are all We are men.

SARI S. JAIPAL REDDY : I don't believe in angel. I believe I am just a good man.

MR. SPEAKER : Let us be men. That will suffice.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K. C. PANT : I have quoted from a communication from the German Government. I have not fabricated it. I have not produced out of thin air. (*Interruptions*) Just see this. This is what I mean He thinks, he is strengthening his case. (*Interruption*) This is a clear and categorical statement by the FRG Government.

Now, on the question of misunderstanding, a great deal had been said yesterday.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : I promised not to interrupt If you yield, I will.....

SHRI K.C. PANT : I will be the last person to make him break his promise.

(*Interruptions*)

The fact is that there is no basis for any misconception with regard to the misunderstanding. I would refer the Members to what the FRG Government says, Aide

Memoire of 27th July, 1987 which unfortunately is read out of context. What does the FRG Government say ? It has asked the HDW to co-operate closely with the Indian Government to answer the questions asked by us. That is what it says and it has been quoted by friends opposite also. Now let me revert to the HDW letter of 9th July. It clearly says that HDW are surprised to learn of the information which they say is not correct. Mark these words. They say that 'this information is not correct'. This is a quotation. Only after saying this, HDW proceeds further and says that this could only have been caused by misunderstanding. That is the genesis of the 'misunderstanding' and unless you read the sentence... (*Interruptions*)

When they say that this information is not correct, this could only have been caused by misunderstanding. Gentlemen use such expressions. What it means, I think, you should ask the friend next to you and he will tell you Mr. Chatterjee. Now, it is wrong and he says that it is not correct. Therefore, it could have only been caused by misunderstanding. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, what you have to say, you have said Now, he is saying what he has got to say. So, listen. He is not saying something wrong or fabricated.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : He cannot say what you like.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Are we to be blamed if we misunderstand the Minister on this question of misunderstanding.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Reddy, he is not going to say what you put in his mouth.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K. C. PANT : So, Sir, what it has come to is this, whether my friends like it or not. The team met Dr. Molitor and reports back that he has denied having

made the statement. The FRG Government says *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : He is only stating the facts.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Rao, do you think that he can fabricate and come before the House like that ?

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : It is of no use.

[*English*]

He has already explained the genesis. To believe or not to believe is up to you.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : What is that statement ?

MR. SPEAKER : Can you believe that he has fabricated such a document and come before the House ? No. I don't believe. Please sit down...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Acharia, I don't like it.

[*Translation*]

Your accusations will be of no relevance.

[*English*]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Who created the misunderstanding ?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : He should be taken to task...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Anybody could have done it.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. I am not allowing you; I am not allowing you either. Please sit down. Over-ruled.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Who is responsible for this ? Who created this misunderstanding ? He should be taken to task...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : All right, you have done it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No interruptions now. I will name you.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you making a noise ? Your noise adds more to this noise what is the remedy of it with me ?

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Is this democracy ? Is this parliamentary practice ?

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : You are doing all this without my permission. What is this ? Mr. Chowdhary, there is limit to everything. You have made your point. That is all.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am going to say the same thing to you also. Mr. Acharia, please sit down. Mr. Chowdhary, it is beyond my limit.

No interruptions now.

SHRI K. C. PANT : Sir, for one year now we have been listening to all kinds of allegations hurled at us from across the floor

of the House on Bofors, on the submarine deal and a hundreds of other things. We have not tried to silences them through noise. We have not tried to drown them out; we have heard them. We have met the points squarely. We have defeated them in arguments.. and when they are defeated then they raise to noise (interruptions). Every time it happens. There is no sure indication of defeat in Parliament than to raise a noise and try to drown another person. This is the only way, this is the surest indication that they have lost the debate and they are free to do it. They are not going to distrub me. I have been in this Parliament long enough, but any time they raise a noise, the whole country will know that they are afraid of the truth.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : No interruptions . I am going to name you. I would like you to take your seat. Mr. Chowdhary, please take your seat. Sit down. I am not allowing you. For God's sake, please keep silent.

(Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER : Mr. Kurup, take your seat...No yielding Mr. Chowdhary, you sit down. This is improper; highly improper.

Yes, Mr. Pant

SHRI K. C. PANT : Some Hon. friends here referred to the procedirgs of the Bundestag, that is the German Parliament and they referred to certain questions that had been raised by opposition Members in German Parliament and the reply of the German Government thereto, particularly in the light of the fact that HDW is a public sector undertaking owned by the Federal Government of Germany and one of the State Governments of Germany.

13.00 hrs.

Now, in that case the FRG Government have said and I think the Hon Members have quoted what exactly they have said, that payments of commissions are not unknown and it is a fact In fact, Shri Shababuddin said that this is a part of

international transactions and many of my friends opposite know. So, the FRG Government have said that this is a fact, that it is known that commissions are paid and then they go on to say, but the decision in such matter lies with the concerned management. And I might say this that their sense of autonomy is much more perhaps than in our public undertakings. Again, this is a fact which most of our friends opposite will know but the point here is not this. The point is that did we sleep over this or did we do anything about it.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : You slept over it.

SHRI K. C. PANT : Sir, we have specifically brought to the HDW's notice the questions asked and the answers given in the FRG Parliament. We have done that. Anybody who has seen the record will be able to tell. Again, it is a part of the record and what is the reply that we have got. It is that the HDW reiterate what they have said earlier that no commission was paid to any Indian or non-Indian agent in India or abroad. This is what they said. This is HDW's reply. What is the objection to this ? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI S JAIPAL REDDY : Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : No point of order. What is the point of order? Which rule has been vitiated, which rule has been violated ?

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : What are you doing ?

[*English*]

No, over-ruled.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. C PANT : Sir, now, this is the reply from the Chief Executive of the company which is fully State owned. Please remember.

**Not recorded.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : So, what ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : Therefore, the inference can be drawn. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. Whatever he has to say, he has to say. He has heard what you have said.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : You are relying on their words.

SHRI K. C. PANT : No, I have told you what our team has said. If you read my statement, you will see that the team which went abroad and the investigating agency's report, at the end of that I have given the conclusions and I can read them out again if you like. Therefore, it is no use trying to again put a haze over the whole matter. It is quite clear. No amount of smoke is going to obscure the truth. The Hon Member has referred to discussions between the Defence Secretary and the former Raksha Mantri and the minute recorded by the latter on April 9. I do not want to go into this in detail but I might tell my Hon. friends that I have stated in my statement, I have mentioned the name of Hinduja. I have said that this is what was said by the Defence Secretary, that the Raksha Mantri recorded it. It is not as though anything has been hidden from the House. We have brought it forward and we are putting it before you. Some of you have quoted it from my statement, therefore, Sir ..

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : That was not the question. The question was .. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. C. PANT : I will come; I have very carefully *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : It is not like that.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : He cannot speak according to your wishes.

SHRI K. C. PANT : I have very carefully noted what my Hon. friends have said.

They are trying to divert me from the main thrust of my argument. I would request them, it is a request to them if they like, to share because after all I have heard them with patience and in peace. I have tried to appreciate whatever points they had to make, although I have heard the same debate in the other House also. I could have been impatient with them. I was not impatient. I could have been impatient with many of the points which I have heard in the other House and even answered in the other House. I was not impatient. I heard you with great patience; I heard you with respect. Therefore, I cannot understand this kind of running dialogues which detract from the seriousness of the occasion. Are you interested in noise or are you interested in argument? If you are interested in argument, we must listen to each other.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijaiwada) : We are interested in the facts.

SHRI K. C. PANT : If you are interested in facts then you must listen to me because noise will not make you listen. If 10 persons from you will speak at the same time, you will not be able to hear me.

(Interruptions)

Now Sir, the important question which the House is entitled to know is, since the Hinduja's name is recorded in the minutes, whether it has been brought to the notice of the investigating agencies or not. This is the important question. Was this concealed from them? Did they go into it or not? This is the only relevant point. I can tell the House that these minutes under reference were in the knowledge of the investigating agencies who undertook appropriate inquiries and came to the conclusion...

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Is that a gospel truth? *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : There is nothing in it. This is the view of our agency only.

(Interruptions)

(English)

MR. SPEAKER : Where else can you go ? It is your agency only.

SHRI K. C. PANT : I think my Hon. friend Shri Bipin Pal Das made a point that this was a suspicion which was recorded and the former Raksha Mantri did not take it as a conclusive fact. He also recorded that the Defence Secretary had told him that probably it was the Hindujas. The words used were 'most probably'. He also recorded that after full confirmation, fullest action should be taken. So, this was what had been recorded. Let me reiterate that this is a matter of record and this is not what I am saying. He had recorded this.

Then, there are two points to consider. One is whether there is any attempt to conceal this. The answer is 'no'. The investigating agencies did go into it. The second point is, "Who said this to whom ?" Well, the Defence Secretary told the erstwhile Raksha Mantri. So, here at least one thing is clear. Even if all the rest of us are villains, the Defence Secretary did not defend the Hindujas. He did not attempt to protect them and he had no bias in favour of the Hindujas. (Interruptions)

It is obvious. Otherwise, he would not have mentioned his name. Let us be fair about it. You cannot have it both ways. After all, it was not as though the erstwhile Raksha Mantri manufactured this. He had recorded that he got this from the Defence Secretary. The Defence Secretary is an important officer of the Government. He had conveyed this information to the former Raksha Mantri. What greater proof than this is required to establish that the Government is trying to get at the truth ? Where is the complaint against the Government, when the Defence Secretary conveys this news ? Let us be fair. It is an established fact that the Defence Secretary informed the former Raksha Mantri. Therefore, my Hon. friends in all fairness must concede that the Defence Secretary had absolutely no bias in favour of the Hindujas. Now, if you concede that, you go a long way towards conceding the bonafides of the Government. Therefore, I would like you to consider these points in all seriousness. (Interruptions)

My Hon. friends are very much exercised because the house that they built is being demolished. If I were in their place, I would also be exercised. I can understand it and I can appreciate it. But the point is, even if it is demolished, there has to be patience. There is no other choice. Therefore, let us accept that sometimes our houses do get demolished. What can one do ? Facts can demolish them. But no amount of noise can construct them. Only logic can construct them; only facts can construct them; only reasoning and arguments can construct them.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : You are giving a judgment over your own performance.

MR. SPEAKER : You have done yours and he is doing his own. Why should you bother ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : In fact, yesterday Mr. Chatterjee in a bout of fairness, which was one of the unaccustomed bouts, said that this Government was negotiating for the fifth and sixth submarines. It had nothing to do with the four submarines that were purchased. That is what he said.

Then, he developed his argument further. He tried to establish a certain link. He is a very able man. I am not questioning his ability.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Your certificate makes me suspect !

SHRI K. C. PANT : But he said that this Government has not purchased any submarine. It negotiated. After the negotiation, it did not purchase. It is not going to purchase those two sub-marines. So, the question of commission does not arise here.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I have never said that.

SHRI K. C. PANT : That is what I am saying: "in an unexpected bout of fairness". That is why I said. There is no agent involved. There is no commission involved.

So far as this Government is concerned, there is no purchase and therefore the question does not arise.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, he is very un-Pant like Pant today !

SHRI K. C. PANT : All right. So, what is the whole argument about ? This whole argument is about the four sub-marines which were contracted for in 1981.

Therefore, so far as this Government is concerned, you yourself concede that there is nothing. You concede out of that unexpected bout of fairness. That has affected your case totally, because it is not against us. You may say anything you like about the previous Government. I have tried to give you the facts with regard to that also. I do not think later on when you go into the facts, you will find much that is objectionable in that. But so far as we are concerned, there is nothing to say and I am very grateful to Shri Chatterjee for having made this point with such clarity.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Now that I find in writing his acknowledgement of my contribution towards this debate, he should not have objected to my smiling earlier.

SHRI K.C. PANT : No writing. You see how dangerous it is to be truthful sometimes. Either it should be a habit when you do not fall into this trap.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : That is why, you have not been truthful so far. *(Interruptions).*

SHRI K.C. PANT : One point was made in all seriousness in the debate and that is with regard to Code of Conduct that should apply to service officers who retire. It was a serious point. I think it has to be looked into. So far as Globtech contract is concerned, Shri Bipin Pal Das dealt with that. There is no occasion for me to deal with that. He mentioned the amounts that had been paid as retainer and so on. But the broader point is a point on which I would like to get suggestions from my Hon.

friends. In the heat of the moment, my submission is that we should not take any position.

In this particular case, for instance, I made enquiries. I found that Admiral Nanda, retired in 1973. His son, who was a Lt. Commander, who was mentioned here—Suresh Nanda—sought premature retirement in May, 1971. Normally, this two year rule etc. apply; it was long before that. But I hold no brief for anybody. If, today, in your wisdom, collectively, you feel that there should be Code of Conduct—some restrictions—I am certainly prepared to consider that. That is another aspect of the matter. I do not think we should mix it up with this debate.

Then, Sir, there was one other serious point which certainly calls for a reply and that was with regard to the sub-marine designs of HDW which were alleged to have been transferred to South Africa. We had questioned HDW about this allegation in the FRG Parliament. HDW reported that an in-complete set of Type 1500 sub-marine documents had been delivered to South Africa, that the basic design of Type 1500 was the property of HDW and, therefore, their design has been and would be offered to other customers as well. HDW further reported that building specifications of the Indian submarine had not been delivered to South Africa, but only those of the basic design type 1500. It was also reported that no trials data relating to the Indian submarine had been passed over to South Africa.

So, some friends asked : 'Did you take up the matter with the Government also, or only with HDW ? So, I checked, and I find that we did take up this matter with the FRG Government and seek an authoritative confirmation of the position reported by HDW. Here also, the question of going to FRG Government arose because that Government is 75% owner of HDW. The FRG Government confirmed that neither classified information on the design of the Indian submarine nor any trials data had been disclosed to South Africa, and that there has been no violation of the agreement on technical secrecy for the protection of

classified materials between the two Governments.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Basic data have been admitted by passed on.

SHRI K. C. PANT : Yes; basic data have been passed on; and in fact there is an inquiry, as I said, of the Parliament of FRG going into that matter. We shall await that. We shall also see what it brings out. So, that is not the last word on this question, but on the basic data, all I have to tell you is that nine other countries possess these submarines. It is not as though it was sold only to India, or that we have proprietary right over this basic design. I think 30 submarines of the same generic design have been supplied by HDW to nine countries. So, this is a point that we have to bear in mind; but, as I said, I would like to await the final outcome of the committee of the Parliament of FRG, before saying anything finally on this matter.

I would like to end by endorsing the appeal which was made yesterday by Shri Bipin Pal Das. It was made in great sincerity. (*Interruptions*).

I can understand that certain subjects excite a lot of controversy; and I know that debates can sometimes get bitter. That is all part of the game. I also fully appreciate that the Opposition has a role to play; and that is, oppose us. They have a role to play, to oppose us. They want to displace us. I can understand all those things.

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE (Rajapur) : You have also played that role.

SHRI K. C. PANT : You have been playing it for a long time. (*Interruptions*). I also did, and I have sat in this House, I have sat in the other House. I have sat in the treasury benches; I have sat in the Opposition. Therefore, Prof Dandavate will grant me the courtesy of listening to me, and of granting that I do really like him. I am a supporter of the basic institutions of this country—I have always been, and still

I am—among which Parliament comes uppermost.

PROF MADHU DANAVATE : Did you find me disturbing you throughout ?

SHRI K.C. PANT : No; that is why I can always speak to you and appeal to your good sense because, I think that we have reached a stage now where this matter of allegations, of smokescreen, of dust being raised, controversies being raised day in and day out without sufficient evidence without sufficient basis, must end, because ultimately we are all interested in the security of this country. If we discuss certain matters in relation to the wrong-doing of certain people, I can understand. I hold brief for nobody; but if we are going to discuss things like submarines and guns and create an atmosphere and a climate in this country as though the Government is unmindful of the impact of buying substandard goods for the Army and the Navy...

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Who said it ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : Well, if you are not saying that, I am glad. I am very glad. I say this because I feel that in this matter we are one. I have not said that you are different. I have not said that you do not feel the same way. Have I ?

Therefore, in these matters where defence preparedness is concerned, where defence forces are concerned, my only appeal to members opposite is that we should rise above party politics and just to gain a point here or there we should not jeopardise the largest interest of the country; and it is in that spirit that I am appealing to them.

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned for lunch to meet at 1420 hrs.

13.21 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch
Till twenty minutes past Fourteen
of the Clock.*

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after
Lunch at twenty-three minutes
past Fourteen of the Clock*

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*English*]

KUMARI MAMATA BENERJEE (Jadavpur) : There was a bomb blast in the Parliament Street. The terrorists have exploded them. This is a very serious matter. (*Interruptions*)

The Home Minister should make a statement.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Order, order.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : We want a discussion on him.

The terrorists have hurled the bombs. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU (Madras North) : It seems there was a bomb blast in Parliament street. The Home Minister should make a statement. (*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : We want a discussion on this.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will find out the facts first.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU : Let the Home Minister come and make a statement in the House. (*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAMATA BENERJEE : It is a serious matter. Two people were killed. We want a discussion. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Listen to me. Order, order.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU : Let the Home Minister come and make a statement here. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Shall I make a submission to you, Sir ? In the past whenever, such incidents took place in the Capital, *suo-motu* statement is made by the Minister in the House. Now a statement has to be made by the Home Minister as in the past. (*Inerruption.*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please listen to me.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will ask out Parliamentary Affairs Minister to find out the facts.

(*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT) : I will find out the facts. (*Interruptions*) :

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please order. She will pass on the message and ascertain the facts. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : I will pass on the sentiments of the House to the Home Minister...(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Apart from the Prime Minister, I mean Parliamentary Affairs Minister—sorry for the pleasant lapse—what I was saying is, in the past when such things happened, unilateral *suo motu* statement used to be made by the Home Minister. The entire House is disturbed. Therefore, he ought to have come on his own and make a statement in the House. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI T. BASHEER (Chirayinkil) : You can ask the Home Minister to furnish information. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have asked her to find out the facts. That is all.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have taken into account the sentiments of the whole House and passed on this message to the Parliamentary Affairs Minister. She will ascertain the facts and inform the House.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will find out.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad) : Till we know from the Home Minister, let us adjourn for fifteen to twenty minutes. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Adjournment—I cannot understand it.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : You adjourn the House. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No. After finding out the facts

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : We are very much concerned about it.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU (Madras North) : You adjourn the House for fifteen minutes. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seat. I understand the feelings of the Members. By way of adjourning the House immediately, what are we going to achieve? I understand the agitation, some kind of feelings of the Members. By way of adjourning immediately, we cannot do anything now. Therefore, I request the Minister to pass on the message and find out the facts.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will ask the concerned Minister to come with the facts.

(*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER : How much time? (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : As soon as possible, we will get the facts.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad) : At least you must have a time limit.

(*Interruptions*)

14 30 hrs.

EMPLOYEES PROVIDENT FUND AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL—*Contd.*

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up further consideration of the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Bill. Shri Ajay Biswas.

[*Translation*]

*SHRI AJAY BISWAS (Tripura West) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, a new amendment has been brought forth to the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Bill. This has been brought because the existing Act failed to protect the interests of the workers and labour. In the statement of the Hon. Minister we find that the employers did not deposit Rs. 185 crores of Provident Fund amount. Even 5 years ago, the arrears were below Rs. 100 crores. Now the employers have deducted Rs. 185 crores from the employees and that, together with the employer's contribution have not been deposited with the authorities. This is very dangerous but I doubt whether the present Bill also will be able to remedy the situation.

As in the old Act, some loopholes have remained in this Bill also. In the parent Act, there was a penal provision of imprison-

ment for one year and/or fine. Will the Labour Minister be able to say how many employers have been imprisoned under the old Act? Now that penalty is being enhance from one year's imprisonment to 3 years imprisonment in this Bill.

The amount of fine is also being raised. We find that although the owners or employers did not deposit the Provident Fund Amount running into Rs. 185 crores, not a single of them has been sent to jail. Then how can we expect that only by making the penal provisions more stringent in this new amending bill, the interest of the workers can be protected and the employers can be kept under control? Sir, I think that the Government has not studied the problems of the workers and of the provident fund, in depth. Had they done that, then the provisions of this Bill could have made more workable and practical whereby the interests of the workers could be effectively protected. We know where the problem lies. The problem is that the employers are deducting the contributions of the workers from their pay but are not depositing them alongwith their own contributions. What are they doing with this accumulated money? They are investing this Rs. 185 crores in business for their own benefit. They are investing this amount in their own business. With this money of the workers they are creating their new assets and increasing their own profit. Many times we have seen that the Government having failed to recover this Provident Fund money have gone to the courts. What are the orders of the Court? The Courts are passing orders for staggered payment to be made by the employers. Now staggered payments mean that the employers shall deposit this money in instalments. Now this staggered payment is giving rise to certain difficulties. I do not know whether the Labour Minister has considered this angle or not. Suppose one worker has died or one worker has died or one worker has retired. So long as the staggered payment is not complete, the account is also not complete. So long as the provident fund account is not complete, the heirs of a deceased worker or a retired worker is not able to get the payment.

Where is the provision in this Bill that in the case of a worker who has died or one who has retired, the employer shall have to deposit the arrears in one lump-sum and in one instalment? No such provision is there in this Bill. The Government must be thinking that through this amendment all the existing loopholes will be removed. But I have my doubts. I think that the old order will continue. One year ago the arrears were to the tune of Rs. 185 crores when after 5 years another amendment will be brought forth, it will perhaps be found that the amount of arrears of deposit is running into Rs. 300 crores and not a single employer has been punished. There is no provision in this Bill about staggered payments on court orders due to which dead and retired workers are not getting their payments for years. Then, this Bill provides that the defaulting employers will pay a simple interest. I want to ask the Hon. Minister how much interest will the employers earn if they keep Rs. 185 crores in fixed deposit in Banks? How much interest are they getting? They are getting at least 10 p.c. or 17 p.c. interest. But after defaulting and committing a cognizable offence when they are depositing that amount, they are paying only simple interest. Why they should not pay at least compound interest? I want to know this from the Labour Minister. How much are the employers earning from the workers' money in this manner! Therefore, I say that by making this provision for payment of simple interest, the interests of the owners are being protected. No account is being maintained. In all those establishments where contributory Provident Fund exists, the workers simply do not know how much money is it their credit in the Fund. Yearly account slips are not issued. How the workers will know that their employers are not indulging in fraud, how will they know whether their money is being properly deposited or not? The Hon. Labour Minister has not provided in this Bill for the issue of monthly or yearly account slip to the workers. Another problem of the workers is about getting loans. After one applies for loan, he does not know when he will be able to get the loan amount. I can say about the situation in Tripura. If one applies for loan in Tripura, the papers will be sent to Shillong or Guwahati. Now one labourer cannot go to Guwahati to pursue

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

his loan application. A small time worker in some establishment has to wait for a long time because the final decision on his application will come from the Regional Head-quarter at Guwahati. Can this poor worker chase his papers at Guwahati? Therefore this problem about loans and even for final settlement remains as before. About belated payment, I have to say that from the present provision of simple interest, it should be made compound interest.

About penal provisions it is said that penalty is being made more stringent. Term of imprisonment is being raised from existing year to 3 years now and amount of fine is also being raised to Rs. 5000. The Government is trying to show the worker that they are on their side, through this amendment Recovery of provident fund amount from the workers and the not depositing it with the concerned authorities— what type of offence is it considered by the Government? Do they view it only as a simple offence? In my view this should be treated as a criminal offence. From the way this amendment has been made, it appears that the Government does not treat this as a criminal offence. If really stringent measures are taken, if some employers are imprisoned then all of them will become alert and they will sit up. They will be dissuaded and discouraged from doing such unjust and illegal work in future. The present Bill will not provide the real stringent measures. I want to know whether some other Bill will be brought forth in the near future that will provide real stringent measures whether default in the case of deposit of provident fund amount by the employers will be treated as a criminal offence or not? If the employers can be sent to jail under the code of criminal offence, then perhaps some benefit will be there. The injustice to the workers and the flaws in the present working can be removed thereby. The Supreme Court has given a clear verdict in this matter. The Supreme Court has passed strictures that these offences should not be viewed as simple offences. They should be treated as criminal offences. Now this outlook or opinion of the Supreme Court does not find a place in this amendment.

I will give an example how the provident fund authority is functioning: there was the need of opening one Sub-divisional Office in

North Bengal. It was decided to open that office at Jalpaiguri. The decision has been taken, office premises has been rented. Since December, 87 a monthly rent of Rs. 7000/- is being paid. Quotations have been invited for supplying furniture here. Quotations have been invited for painting signboards. But that office has not been opened till today, although a monthly rent of Rs 7000/- is being paid for that office. If a provident fund authority works in this manner, how will they look after and protect the interests of the workers?

In this Bill it has been said that the contribution will be raised from $8\frac{1}{3}$ per cent to 10 per cent and from $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to 8 p.c. But it has also been provided that the Central Government shall by notification ascertain whether it is applicable or not and thereafter it will be made 10 per cent. How is it possible? Why is the Law not providing straightaway that it shall be made 10 p.c. Why is it being left in the hands of the Central Government to decide through notification whether to make it 10 p.c. or not. But the Standing Labour Committee took a clear decision in its meetings on 22nd and 23rd September, 87 to raise the contribution to 10 p.c.. To bypass the unanimous decision of the Standing Labour Committee why is it being left in the hands of the Central Government? Again in Clause 5 AA it has been provided that an Executive Committee shall be constituted. What is the function of this Executive Committee? It is to assist the Board. We are watching the working of this Board year after year. The Board is indulging in various useless and worthless works. I gave the example of the opening of a office at Jalpaiguri. Now an executive committee is being constituted above its head to assist the Board. The Question is whether this Executive Committee has any utility or not. The Board itself should be made powerful, it should be made more democratic in functioning. It should be made more effective. The Executive Committee will not serve any purpose. It will only be a TA/DA Committee. What assistance will they give to the Board?

As I said in the beginning, the provident fund problem of the employees and workers is not being studied in depth when some problem or crisis erupts, an ad-hoc amend-

ment is brought forth cursorily. Whether that amendment will solve all the problem of the workers or not is not considered deeply. Merely an Executive Committee is being set up.

Then again Sir, a Tribunal is being set up, I am not against tribunals but we have a bitter experience about tribunals. In the Labour tribunals Labour Disputes are pending. Can the Hon. Labour Minister say how many thousand labour disputes are pending with the Labour tribunals? It will run into several lakhs. The Labour tribunal is not disposing off several lakhs of Labour disputes but are sitting over them year after year. Suppose a provident fund authority takes a decision, the employer does not accept that. The matter goes to the tribunal. Now after the decision of the provident fund authority, the worker could get redressal of his grievance. But now the employer goes to the tribunal and the case will linger there for 5 years or more. Therefore, the worker will have to wait for that long. Actually the employer is being benefited this way by opening the road for him to linger the cases in the Tribunal. We are not against tribunals but our doubt is whether the tribunal will be able to solve the problem of the workers speedily and effectively.

In the end Sir, I will mention about the tea gardens. In the tea gardens of West Bengal, Assam, Tripura etc. the management has not deposited the provident fund amount of the workers. Lakhs of rupees in the tea gardens of Tripura have not been deposited with the authorities. The Government has instituted court cases, which are lingering year after year. The Government is adopting half hearted measures in the matter. This is not going to benefit the workers. This will not do. This legislation should be further amended to bring the employers to book and to keep them under control. Otherwise the employers will go on cheating the workers, and the problem will not be solved.

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY (Hazari-
bagh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a welcome step taken by the Government and has been supported by all including the opposition. It has only been suggested that whatever is being done is not enough and a

lot needs to be done in future. The provision proposed in the present amendment only enables the Government to raise the provident fund subscriptions by two per cent on the basis of suggestion made by the National Labour Commission in 1969. It should have been done much earlier. Neither the workers nor the employers ever obstructed to put the Act into force or to bring forward an amendment on it. Though there has been some delay nevertheless, I welcome the steps taken by the Government in this direction.

One more thing requires attention. There are several other schemes also besides the Employees Provident Fund Scheme. For example, some industries have been exempted from it and they run their own provident fund scheme. The coal mines have their separate provident fund. The private sector and the public sector have been given certain exemptions. But the present arrangement does not indicate anything whether both the sectors should be treated equally. There has been lot of loss on this account and therefore, I want to draw the attention of the Government to it. For example, the Government raised the rate of interest but has it come to its notice that the companies which have been exempted are running their own provident fund schemes but they do not even give 11 per cent interest. It has not come into force either in the public sector or in the private sector. I, therefore, suggest that the scheme to be given effect with regard to provident fund should be binding on these people on a uniform basis. The Government should take appropriate decision and issue suitable direction in case it finds that any departure from the above scheme has been made anywhere.

I would like to submit one thing more. The proposal to increase two per cent is a part of social security. Though we want to provide social security to the labourers we are following the age old practice, in this regard. There has to be a change in the attitude and outlook but no thought has been given to it so far. This 2 per cent increase in the rate of interest in the Provident fund scheme has been made on the recommendations of the Industrial Labour Commissioner and after consulting the industries so that a pension scheme could be

formulated for the workers. About 8 lakh labourers work in the coal mines. They have formulated a scheme. Not only the labourers, but also the officers and employers have prepared it jointly. The Government did never refuse the above scheme. But the whole scheme is the doldrums due to pending of the Bill here.

Those who are about to retire from service are hopeful of getting a handsome amount from the provident fund in lump sum. But the innocent and uneducated labourers face numerous difficulties when they have to withdraw the amount. People also deceive them. In order to safeguard their interests it was provided that the provident fund money will be kept intact and the deposits to be made will be deposited in the pension scheme so that they may get some or the other support till they survive. It was apprehended that somebody may cheat them of the lumpsum amount and waste it. That is why the above arrangement was made. I do not say that this scheme may be withheld here, but the labourers feel that the Government wants to utilise the amount on pensions, because it is in the enabling clause. There are no indications that it will come into force forthwith. I would, therefore like so submit to the Hon. Minister to allow the industries concerned to invest this money in production. Presently, the money deposited in the provident fund is a vital source for the country's economy. Rs. 17,000 crores from the Workers Provident Fund has been invested for promoting country's economy and industry. The increase proposed will be a very important step in the direction of leading the country a head and strengthening the country's economy. But the pension scheme may prove better than it. It will add a specific amount in a particular month. If we can maintain non-inflationary social security on this basis a lot of welfare of the labourers could be done. I, therefore, request the Hon. Minister to reconsider it. It is the the opportune time and even after the Bill is passed he is fully empowered to show the right path to the people.

I do not want to repeat the points which have been made by several Hon. Members. Large number of people are not regularly contributing to the Provident Fund. It was

mentioned that Rs. 185 crores are still to be recovered. But what exactly happens? There are no two opinions that many industrialists have made it into a business. They want to become owners of big factories overnight. They do not want to put hard labour. They have a tendency to raise loan from the Government on one plea or the other, say for example, by reinstating some employees. They swindle the money of those labourers which they are supposed to deduct from their wages and deposit in the provident fund. Misappropriation in Provident fund is the foremost factor leading to the sickness of an industry. Besides, they do not pay any tax to the Government and keep the money deducted from the labourers with them. When the entire industry becomes sick and swindle the entire capital they tell the Government that they want to close the industry. I would like to ask the Government as to why it cannot make out their intentions in the first instance. The Government should make out that the intentions of the industry concerned are not good from the month it stops contributing to the provident fund. It means that they want to indulge in dishonesty. The concerned industrialist wants not only to deceive the people but also the Government and the society as well. On the plea of sickness he is able to cheat everybody. Now, it has been provided in the Bill to award three year's imprisonment or a fine of Rs. 5000 in case of default. This has been done with a view to recover Rs. 185 crores. We feel that this would be cheaper for the people. The person, who will be awarded three month's imprisonment or a fine of Rs. 5000 must have earned over Rs. 5 crores. He will prefer to spend the jail term for a few days and enjoy there after. There is no dearth of such people in our country. We will have to evolve some concrete measures to recover the money. Only realisation of this amount of Provident Fund contribution would not be sufficient. Few years back only Rs. 3 crores were to be recovered while now it has mounted to Rs. 185 crores. The people have started believing that nothing happens if they embezzle funds. Some Hon. Members pointed out that earlier there was a provision for one year imprisonment in case of default but how many people were prosecuted? When no one was punished under the one year imprisonment provision one fails to under-

stand how you could guarantee three year imprisonment in case of default. What should the Government do now? It should take steps to root out this irregularity.

Appropriate action should be taken immediately after the very first or second month when the contribution to provident fund is not deposited by the employers so that in future it may not accumulate from Rs. 185 crores to Rs. 285 crores. I firmly believe that this irregularity could be checked if immediate action is taken at the initial state. Otherwise these industrialists have decided to swindle the money of poor labourers for the fulfillment of their ambitions and acquiring luxuries. Immediate action is the only way to check it. Therefore, provision should be made so that Provident Fund Contributions do not get accumulated with the employers.

I agree with my colleague's contention that the Employees Provident Fund Scheme has given considerable relief to the workers. But as several Members have pointed out the workers are unaware of the exact amount in their Provident Fund account because they are not issued any account slips. You should issue passbook to all the workers. It is not a difficult task. The Coal Mines Welfare organisation has issued passbooks to all its workers showing their amount in Coal Mines Provident Fund Scheme. That is why most of the workers cannot complain about their accounts. The company possesses their passbooks and workers could check them whenever they like. When a company can manage to issue pass books to to its 8 lakh workers why this system cannot be followed throughout the country.

I also want to suggest about the refund of Provident Fund amount. Workers have to face innumerable difficulties in getting refund. They lead a miserable life and even die but they do not get their refund. It has been stated that there is huge amount of unclaimed Provident Fund. Many Members have suggested that this money should be utilized for housing scheme or some other welfare scheme. I am speaking of only one scheme that total insurance, so that worker could get his full amount of Provident Fund on the very day he retires. The insurance company will guarantee this amount. This

unclaimed amount of Provident Fund should be used for timely payment to the retired workers. On the day a worker retires he should be handed over the entire amount of his Provident Fund. This is my suggestion.

These were a few issues which I had to raise. I hope you will pay attention on these issues.

SHRI RAM NARAIN SINGH (Bhiwani) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I do, not oppose the Provident Fund Amendment Bill. Although the Bill moved by the Hon. Minister of Labour in the interest of workers is a good Bill but it has many *loopholes* and deficiencies. I will offer you a few suggestions to plug them. You may consider them if so desire.

It has been stated by many Hon. Members that the employers have not deposited the Provident Fund Contribution to the tune of Rs. 185 crores. First of all Government should take action against the concerned officers of this department for their negligence. Those officers are corrupt because employers cannot swindle the money without their connivance. Action should, therefore, be taken against the guilty officers.

15.00 hrs.

Although you propose to make the Act more stringent by making provisions for 3 year term of imprisonment yet in practice it would be difficult to recover money from the employers when matter is dragged into litigation. When a department is involved in litigation it becomes very difficult to recover the money. In my opinion this money should be recovered by treating it as arrears of land revenue because then there is no scope for litigation. Collectors and Assistant Collectors are empowered to imprison defaulters and attach their property. In my opinion Provident Fund Contribution can only be realised from the industrialist only if it is treated as arrears of land revenue. If the matter is dragged into the court there will be lot of workers who would face innumerable difficulties and may even die

before getting their Provident Fund. Therefore, immediate solution of the problem is to recover Provident Fund contributions from employers in the same way as arrears of land revenue.

Every Government servant gets an annual G.P.F. statement showing the amount of his Provident Fund as on 31st March and he is provided opportunity to point out errors in it if any. Likewise a worker should also be given an annual statement of his contribution to the Employees Provident Fund by Labour Commissioner and should also be provided an opportunity to point out errors if any. That statement will also confirm whether the employer has deposited the Provident Fund contribution of employees? Why cannot the workers be supplied with annual statement of Provident Fund contributions when cores of Government servants are being supplied. Attention needs to be paid in this direction.

Besides, there is lot of bungling in this department. After retirement the workers do not get the refund of their Provident Fund amount for years together. The procedure of Provident Fund refund is so complicated that the worker is fed up of sending applications and in the event of death of the worker on in the event of his giving up the job it becomes all the more difficult to get the repayment. If any worker wants to get loan for the marriage of his daughter or for any other work the attitude of the department is pathetic instead of being sympathetic. The Government should pay attention to these shortcomings. Besides, simplifying the procedure for refund money should be recovered from the employers by treating it as arrears of land revenue. Workers would not be benefited if they are dragged into litigation. Similarly, workers should also be issued an annual statement of their Employees Provident Fund Contributions like the G.P.F. statement issued to Government Servants. Workers would be benefited only through these measures.

[English]

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW (Dum Dum) :
Sir, I stand to support and to congratulate the Government, particularly, the Minister of State for Labour for bringing forward

this Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment Bill), 1988. What I feel and what I find from this proposed amendment Bill is that Government has decided to put more teeth into the Provident Fund Act to enable timely transfer of funds. It is a regular feature and from our experience we find that a large number of employers and a large number of companies in the Private Sector, whether they are exempted under the exempted category or unexempted are not depositing money. Sometimes, they are not depositing the Employers' contribution and there are cases where the employers are also not depositing employee's contribution after deducting money from the employees' salaries. I find that the object of this Amendment Bill is very noble, but we do not know how far this legislation will be implemented. We have come across a number of Acts, a number of amendments Bill, which have been passed in this House, but in the practical field we find that the implementation of the Acts is not very rapid or not prompt. The Hon. Minister is here. I can point out certain shortcomings of Bill. I do not know whether it has been considered before presenting this Amendment Bill or not. There is one practical difficulty to achieve the main object of the Bill. There is an Act called the Companies Act. I am talking from my practical experience. The Companies Act, 1956 has sections 417 to 420 which give certain right to the management or the officers of the company to get relief under section 633 of the Companies Act if any default is committed. Suppose today one officer commits default in depositing the money in Provident Fund, he has right to go before the Court under the Companies Act, and make an application under section 633 of the Companies Act read with sections 417 to 420 asking relief from the court to relieve him from all the consequences for not depositing the money and in that event will grant him relief. This is happening every day. Ultimately the default management may take the instalment order from the court. If they commit default again in making payment of instalments, the matter can be moved before the Constitution Bench under article 226 of the Constitution. I do not know—at present I do not have the exact statistics—of the pending before the High Courts. Of course,

a large number of cases are pending before the Calcutta High Court. I am sure, the Minister is well aware of that fact.

I admit the Bill is a well drafted one, but the moment Government will try to implement the sections which are being amended, the Companies Act and the other Acts will come in the way and again delay will be caused in recovering the money from the management or from the establishment. Therefore, in order to implement this Amendment Bill. Government should look into the matter; it should ensure effective enforcement of this Bill. Secondly, the main purpose of this Amendment, as I understand, is to reduce the arrears. The whole purpose should be to ensure reduction of arrears of Provident Fund. Thirdly, by implementing this Amendment Bill, an attempt should be made to bring efficiency into the organisation. When I say 'organisation', I mean the Government officers who are controlling Provident Fund affairs. It is also necessary to revitalise the Provident Fund machinery with the definite object to realise the arrears and to detect the defaulters and taking timely action against the defaulters so that by committing default, a defaulter cannot take advantage of the long drawn legal procedures. Timely action should be taken immediately.

I may also point out that proposed amendments contemplate that various organisations will come up. Information should be given very promptly to the workers regarding the changes which are taking place in the legislation. Sometimes the workers are not aware of their right. They do not know what to do. If any notification is issued, if any change takes place in the legislation, they are not promptly informed. So, they should be informed about their rights and such wings or departments should be maintained by the Government so that workers could be informed.

In this Act, it has been proposed in Clause 5AA :

"The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, constitute, with effect from such date

as may be specified therein, an Executive Committee to assist the Central Board in the performance of its functions."

It is a very noble idea. But I do not know why this Act is totally silent about the duties and functions of the Executive Committee. Therefore, it should be spelt out. I find, the Amendment Bill is totally silent about this aspect of the matter.

15.11 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH *in the Chair*]

I find from the proposed Clause 9 which intends to amend the Section 6 of the Principal Act that contribution will be enhanced from $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent to $8\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. That is the highest level. But the minimum rate of contribution should be fixed. A provision should be made in this Act enhancing the minimum contribution of the workers towards the provident fund and that rate should be enhanced. Here, it has been contemplated that at the discretion of the management, the scope has been given, should be enhanced to ten per cent. A line should be drawn that beyond this percentage, no worker should be allowed to contribute.

The most important clause for the rapid and speedy disposal of the arrear cases is the Clause 10. Clause 10 provides as follows :

"The Central Provident Fund Commissioner, any Additional Central Provident Fund Commissioner, any Deputy Provident Fund Commissioner, any Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, or any Assistant Provident Fund Commissioner may, by order ;

- (a) in a case where a dispute arises regarding the applicability of this Act to an establishment, decide such dispute; and
- (b) determine the amount due from any employer under any provision of this Act, the Scheme or the

Family Pension Scheme or the Insurance Scheme."

The idea is very good. I heartily support this idea. But time should be limited. From our experience, we find that these tribunals and quasi-judicial authorities take unnecessary long time to dispose of the matter. Some specific time should be given in the Act itself within which period whatever disputes are referred to whichever forum: it should be disposed of and the Government should be very vigilant about it. Otherwise, the entire purpose of this Act will be totally defeated. Justice delayed is justice denied.

Clause 7C provides a section which says ;

" he may, within a period of five years from the date of communication of the order passed under section 7A or section 7B, re-open the case.. ."

So, for re-opening the case five years time has been given under this Amendment Bill. Why is it five years? It should be ten years. Why such a short time is given? Suppose an employer has suppressed certain documents and the authority fails to detect these documents, within five years and after ten years it comes to light, then an opportunity should be given to re-open the case. A period of ten years should be kept if not more. This is my suggestion to the Hon. Minister. Five years is too short a time. Even in the Income Tax Act a long time is given for re-opening the case. So why is it only five years here?

Then I find about Tribunals under Clause 7D. It has been contemplated that tribunal will be set up. I am humbly submitting that by simply constituting tribunal disputes cannot be disposed of expeditiously. Some machinery can be set up. Again I am repeating that unless the time limit is provided for within which period whatever disputes are referred to the tribunal has to be disposed of, the tribunal may take to dispose of the case more than five years, by which time the purpose of this Act will be totally frustrated.

Regarding deposits again the question of time limit comes. I would refer to Clause 7L (2) which says :

"A Tribunal may, at any time within five years from the date of its order, with a view to rectifying any mistake apparent from the record, amend any order passed by it..."

I would again say that five years time is very short; it should be ten years within which period the Tribunal can rectify its mistakes.

Regarding deposits in case of appeal it has been suggested under Clause 70 that :

"No appeal by the employer shall be entertained by a Tribunal unless he has deposited with it seventy-five per cent of the amount due from him..."

Why is it 75 per cent? The total amount should be deposited like in any other court. After all, the money will be deposited with the Tribunal: it is not the payment. If the management succeeds in the appeal it will get the refund; but defaulting management has to deposit the total amount. Instead of 75 per cent, it should be made total amount—whatever the claim has been determined that has to be deposited and then only the right to go before the Tribunal will be entertained.

Today the arrears of Provident Fund position throughout India, particularly in West Bengal is very bad. In most of the jute industries, the management are not depositing their contribution to the Provident Fund. Some strict measures have to be taken to force these managements to deposit their share of the Provident Fund.

In this Amendment Bill I find another contradiction. A provision has been made for treating the entire amount of arrears of PF dues as first charge on the assets of an establishment in the event of its liquidation. Corresponding amendment in Section 530 of the Companies Act should be made otherwise it will become infructuous. It will clash with Section 530 of the Companies Act. Without making corresponding changes in Section 530 of the Companies Act it will become infructuous.

With these words, I support this Bill wholeheartedly and congratulate the Hon. Minister although this piece of legislation

has been brought too late yet this amendment has been brought for the benefit of the workers of our country.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI (Kaliabor): Sir, the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Bill, 1988 has been taken up for the interests of the working class. I would have been happy to support this Bill but I am constrained to oppose this because of the fact that this is nothing but an old record in high sound. After Independence of the country you have brought so many laws in this House. India is a member of the ILO. Out of 150 ILO conventions India has adopted only 30 and that too on paper. You have not adopted them in letter and spirit. So far as our experience is concerned the labour laws are nothing but a scrap of paper.

There cannot be any social security without social justice and without social justice there cannot be any social security. Under Article 19 of the Constitution of India there is provision for protection of certain rights. Under Article 42 there is provision for just and humane conditions of work, under Article 43 there is provision for living wage to the workers' and under Article 43A there is provision for workers' participation in the management. These things are there in the Constitution and you have adopted so many laws but the same have not been implemented so far. I will give an example. If a worker in a private concern is today dismissed by the management the worker will have to take his wage dispute before the management, labour officer or the Inspector. Then after a few months the Labour Inspector or the Labour Officer will start conciliation proceedings. Then conciliation proceedings after a few months will fail. The management will not come to the table of the conciliation proceedings. Then he will submit a failure report to the Labour Commissioner. The Labour Commissioner, at his sweet will, after six months will send a report to the Labour Department and the Labour Department after some months or years will refer the matter to the labour court for adjudication and the workers after two-three years will have to go to the labour court. Then in the labour court the trial

will start and it may take three to five years.

On one fine morning, you will find that the case is dismissed against the workman. Then, he will have to go to the High Court and from the High Court to the Supreme Court. These are nine stages. How can you expect a poor workman, getting Rs. 10-12 a day, to go through all the nine stages? Can a man, getting Rs. 12 a day, follow all these stages? Can he go to the Supreme Court? This is the present position. Such are the laws now. Why have you failed to bring forward a law under Article 323-B? Why don't you set up a labour administrative tribunal for the private workers? The moment a worker is dismissed, he can directly go to the labour tribunal. From the labour tribunal, he can go to the High Court and then to the Supreme Court, instead of following the procedures. These are the lacunae. These are nothing but draconian laws. These are not helping the workmen.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Don't get angry.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Have patience. You have compelled me to lose my temper. (*Interruptions*)

In my State, there are about 800 tea estates. The condition of these estates is worse. The workers have not been given housing facilities, accommodation, medical facilities, sanitation, water, etc. Nothing of this sort has been given.

You will definitely say that there are AGP and my Government. But for the last 36 years, there was the Congress Government. You have failed to implement the labour laws in the tea plantations of Assam. Assam is earning 60 per cent of foreign exchange out of tea. Tea Board is there for the welfare of the people of the tea plantations. But who is getting the benefit out of the Tea Board's funds? Not a single worker is getting the benefit out of its funds. They have set up some estates. The Tea Board is functioning at their goodwill, but not in the

spirit of the established procedures. It is only busy in making policies. The policies are nothing but fiasco.

Now I am referring to amendment of section 14. In place of three months, now they have extended to one year, a fine of Rs. 10,000. Why? You have failed to make a law for compulsory imprisonment in the event of failure on the part of the management. If the management failed to implement these provisions or laws, then if he tried in a court of law, he will have to undergo an imprisonment or a fine—either of the two. What prevented you to make a provision for compulsory imprisonment in case of failure on the part of the management? Why not that? What new changes you have brought here? Nothing more, nothing new. Make the law compulsory so that the management is compelled to comply with the provisions and implement the laws. Suppose the management is required to construct 8,000 houses in an area. He is to invest Rs. 10 lakhs in a year. He does not to care to construct the houses for the workers. He always violates the rules. The moment the case is taken to the court, he hesitates because he is saving money out of that. So he does not care to pay Rs. 5000. There is no penalty or compulsory imprisonment. If you want to give social security to the working class, the laws must be based on the Constitution and implemented properly. They must be scrutinised in a microscopic view. Otherwise, these laws will not be helpful and for the last 14 years, the working class is suffering. You keep on saying *Garibi Hatao* and *Bekari Hatao*. This will not help us, this unity and integrity.

MR CHAIRMAN: Why don't you speak on the Bill?

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: What is there in this Bill? Nothing. It is only a set of paper. I have the Constitution here.

MR CHAIRMAN: Why I am telling you is because the time is short and if you go on speaking on general aspects, you will have little time to speak on the Bill. Already your time has exhausted.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: So far as the provident fund is concerned, Assam

Tea Plantation provisions are still there. They do not give any statement or account the workers. The innocent workers do not know whether there is any provision to get a statement of accounts or not. This is very serious. For the last 14 years, even on the date of retirement, they do not get their dues. And the law says that within six months or 14 days, they have to get their dues. They do not get the retirement benefits, the PF money and their contribution. This is happening in every industry and what to speak of the public sector industry and in the private sector industry, the picture is very much dim. The workers render their service for building the nation and in return, even on the date of their retirement, they do not get their benefits. There is no law to protect their life and property. Only for name sake, ours is a welfare state and in a welfare state, everybody is protected except the workers. This is happening and particularly in tea industries in Assam, the workers are in severe starvation. There is no opportunity of any kind. So, I pray, through you Sir, the Hon Minister to take such steps that the workers are properly protected, paid and are given all benefits due for them. Otherwise, this will not help at all. With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the purpose of this Bill is to safeguard the interests of the employees. Through this Bill not only the representation of employees has been increased in the Board but it also seeks to vest all the necessary machinery and resources with the Board so that it can check and take steps against the defaulters.

We welcome the Government's decision to increase the percentage of contribution. The provisions made by the Government are well-intended but the problem is in implementation. Provision has been made that interest will be charged from the defaulter. Besides if a recovery is made against a defaulter or a case is registered in the court, there is a provision that first of all the amount of Provident Fund will be deducted from his assets and will be given to the employees. Therefore, we welcome all these steps but now will they be implemented. The

number of defaulters is on the increase and neither the Government nor we are in a position to tell whether this number will decline as a result of this legislation. Just now an Hon. Member said that a number of industrialists have swindled the provident fund contribution of employees to the tune of Rs. 185 crores. A number of cases are pending and no action is taken. It has been suggested repeatedly that pass books should be issued compulsorily to all the employees of those establishments which have come under the purview of the Act, so that the workers could know about their own contribution and that of their employer's contribution in the fund. They will also come to know the amount that they are likely to get on retirement. This is not an impossible task which the Government cannot take.

Another thing, which has come into our notice is that we charge only simple interest on this fund from the defaulters instead of charging compound interest from them. A defaulter is a defaulter and therefore we should not show any leniency to him. Action should be taken against him by making it a cognizable offence but in this regard no provision has been made in this Bill. I would like to urge the Hon. Minister that in case we are unable to get the desired results for the workers through this Amendment Bill then this suggestion should be considered in future.

Recovery powers vested with the District Magistrate have been transferred to the Recovery officer. Perhaps the Hon. Minister thought that the District Magistrate had to discharge many duties and therefore he could not pay required attention towards it. I think that it is likely to cause more harm instead of benefiting. The State Governments should be instructed to recover Provident Fund arrears from the defaulters on the similar lines as land revenue. If the arrears of Provident Fund are recovered like the land revenue arrears, I think every person would desire to chase it right from District Magistrate to Chief Secretary of State and even the Chief Minister, but the arrears of Provident Fund are not recovered like the land revenue arrears. That is why nobody feels responsible except this Provident Fund Organisation. I would, therefore, like to request the Government to direct to State

Governments to recover the arrears of Provident Fund on similar lines as recovery of land revenue arrears and utilise the entire State machinery to recover the dues so that the defaulters do not dare to swindle the money. I fail to understand how the Recovery Officers would be successful when they are not vested with those powers which are with the District Magistrate. Even the latter have failed in this field.

With these words, I welcome this Bill wholeheartedly and I hope that the facilities and concessions provided by the Government to the workers, will be welcomed by all.

[English]

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL (Erandol) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, in a democracy we expect that the majority should rule and the minority sitting in the Opposition should oppose on constructive points. But I have seen some Members who are not satisfied with this very good, comprehensive amendment and they are trying to seek loopholes in that. Of course, in any Act or amendment thereto, there may be some loopholes, there may be some scope for improvement but all the same the fact cannot be denied that this amendment to the Employees Provident Fund Act is very comprehensive. It is almost a new Act, new pay slip. More than 70 per cent of the old things are changed, right from the size of the Board which has been increased from 6 to 10 to accommodate more representatives of the employers and employees, so also the percentage of contribution is being increased from 6 per cent to 8 per cent with enabling provisions up to 10 per cent and the mode of recovery. In case of the mode of recovery also there will be very strong machinery for the recovery and it will work effectively.

Many Members were harping on the figures of arrears, i.e. Rs. 185 crores, but they have ignored the fact that starting from Rs. 3 crores the increase has reached to Rs. 185 crores. But at the time of arrears when the figure was Rs. 3 crores the number of industries was also small. Now, the number of industries, especially the small scale industries has increased and it is running into lakhs. So, definitely when the industry becomes sick or when the intentions

fions of the employer are not honest there may be some arrears and to recover such arrears to protect the interest of the workers even in such units, even against the bad intentions of such employers this amendment has been brought. And with this amendment we will take care of those things. But we must see what is the percentage of arrears. It is hardly one per cent but even to take care of that one per cent, the Central Government under the dynamic leadership of Rajiv ji and our dynamic Labour Minister, Shri Tytler, they have brought forward this amendment. You may say this is late. Many things in democracy are delayed.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Minda-pore) : Democracy means late.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : My CPI and CPI (M) friends should welcome this. I was expecting that they will be sitting in majority here, in full number.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : You see your number.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : We are as usual. But sometimes when you are only the protectors, you try to show that you are the only godfather of workers in this country. You should have shown it just now.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are the provisions for charging simple interest on the arrears. I would like to suggest that if the industrial unit is facing sickness, if there is no increase in turn over, the interest can be simple interest. There are some other difficulties in the industrial unit or to the employers. If the employer's turn-over is doubled, if there is expansion and if there is profit earning, in that case even if he is maintaining an arrears of provident fund then the interest should be the compound interest. There should be some difference for different types of defaulters of provident fund.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would also like to suggest that we have got certain instrument in our hand. For many industries we are giving some special quota of raw materials from the Government. If the employers in such industries are defaulting the provident

fund, then it is very bad and we can think of stopping the priority allotment of such raw material quota. In many areas we are giving industrial subsidy to the extent of 10 per cent, 20 per cent and even 25 per cent. If an employer fails to make the provident fund payments to his employees, there should be a provision whereby the amount of subsidy must be adjusted against the payment of arrears. Many banks do take advantage of this provision and adjust this type of subsidy against loans. We also can make a similar provision for adjusting the subsidy which runs into lakhs and lakhs of rupees even in the case of small scale industries, against the provident fund arrears which remain due from the employers.

I would like to suggest that though this is a very good amendment, our workers must be educated about the provisions of this type of laws. They should be made aware of their rights. In big industrial units, where the number of workers is more, where there are unions like the INTUC, unions of the CPI and the CPI (M) and unions of our friends like Datta Samant, the workers are very much conscious about their rights. They can bring the employers even to their own terms. They need not go to the Provident Fund authorities for recovery of the arrears. They can see to it that the employers contribute to the fund properly and deposit the amount regularly in their accounts. But workers in small units, especially when they are new and when their number is not more than 20 or 30, are not covered by the unions. Such category of workers also should be educated about their rights. They should have an understanding of the various provisions of the law so that they know their rights. When they are conscious of their rights, the work load on the part of the Union and State Governments and other law enforcing machineries will be greatly reduced. If a person is conscious of his rights, he will fight for it. He may go to a court or a tribunal or any other relevant authority for getting his dues back.

Lastly, I would like to tell my Hon. friends in the Opposition, who want everything readymade, that this also is being given in a readymade form. After getting everything readymade, they still want to take the credit for it. At least now, they should

give credit to the Hon. Minister for bringing forward this comprehensive amendment and support it wholeheartedly.

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central) : Sir, my friend from Maharashtra Shri Vijay N. Patil is talking of taking a lot of credit. I will definitely give some credit at the end of my speech.

But first, I would like to submit that workers contribute a lot to the government funds through provident fund, family insurance and so on. The Hon. Minister may kindly give me the exact amount of their contribution, but as far as my knowledge goes, an accumulated amount of 70,000 crores of rupees which belongs to the workers is being used by this Government for various schemes.

Your concern here is only about 1.3 crore workers. You are not taking the workers of the Central Government, State Government and various corporations and public sector undertakings into consideration. So, in the case of an equal number of government workers, you are not going to implement this amendment or increase their provident fund contribution. I think that this is not a correct step. At least in the case of 21 lakhs of public sector workers, you should have done something. Even the workers feel so much conscious about it at the end of their service. They themselves want to contribute more to the fund. Also, the Government is going to gain from this. This is a question of collection of the fund. According to my figures, the annual collection from all Central and State Government workers and public sector units comes to about Rs. 3000 crores to Rs. 4000 crores. The Government collects such a amount. If you consider increasing the amount from 6.1 per cent to 8 per cent or from 8 per cent to 10 per cent, another one thousand crores of rupees can be collected by the Government. Sir, I made all these calculations on my own. Therefore, I want the Hon. Minister to give me the correct details. I say this because we are also concerned about the national economy. I am more interested in knowing as to how much is being contributed by my workers. That is why, all such figures are very important.

Secondly, it is not a question of compound interest and simple interest. I have inquired about this aspect from your Accounts Offices in States as well as here in the Centre. A very huge amount of money belonging to the workers is being used by the Government. You are giving only simple interest on the amount. They deposit their contribution three or four times, every year. But you calculate the interest only at the end of the year. So, there will be an accumulation of interest amounting to crores of rupees. This Government has literally deprived them of interest amounting to crores of rupees. You calculate if they work for thirty years or so, how much will be the interest. Therefore, I would appeal to the Government to direct the banks or other financial institutions to calculate the interest on monthly basis. This discrimination should not be there, regarding calculation of interest on a yearly basis. It is only the workers money which they contribute towards the Provident Fund which is being used for various schemes. I am happy about that.

The bosses of sick industrial units are taking away the hard-earned money of these workers. They are using this money for their various schemes. Ultimately, when you see the net result, there is nothing in it.

I would appeal to the Hon. Minister—the Public Undertakings Committee had given you the recommendation—that the interest calculations should be made on monthly basis instead of yearly basis and the compound interest should be given to the workmen.

Coming to the Provident Fund Office, I would say they are the dens of corruption. I come from Bombay. I was also a leader of their Union. For getting the forms, for filling up the forms, the poor workman has to go ten or fifteen times to that office. Everywhere money is demanded. There are agencies involved in that. There are even the Trade Union Leaders who also indulge in such types of activities. There are big such rackets. Everybody is involved, except a few. If anybody receives Rs. 30,000 or Rs. 40,000 as commission or some such thing, the rest of the people will also demand their share out of that money.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Thomas takes an exception to this.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : Everywhere there are good and bad people. This can be corrected. I would like to say something more regarding corruption. When the widows of the workers or their dependents approach them for the money, they are not treated properly. Anyway, they are not with the Unions. We do not look after the widows. They need money very badly with the result, even for a signature, they demand money. They raise small technical points and demand money from the poor widows. The same thing is happening in case of retired people.

So my submission is that you set up a Vigilance Cell in the Central Office of the Provident Fund Commissioner. You set up such Vigilance Cells and make enquiries from them. Definitely, I would say, there will be some improvement. Anyway, you are trying to make some improvement by raising your interest rates from 6 per cent to 10 per cent. But the point is the workers should get their interest without any difficulty.

Regarding this, I have already given an Amendment. I hope, you will allow me to move it. In that, what I am proposing is, if any worker contributes on his own more than 10 per cent, then, you should give him Income Tax rebate. In Bombay and also in many other places, the salaries have gone upto more than Rs. 3,000 or Rs. 4,000. So, the workers would like to contribute more money towards the Provident Fund.

Last month, we had discussed High Court Judges Pension. We have passed that also. This Act is encouraging the Provident Fund trusts. A lot of Trusts are run at present. You give permission to the employee. He will collect it and deposit the same with you. The provision in the law is very good. The Hon. Minister is now going to treat the representative of the workmen, the representative of the employer, equally. But the Chairman, will always be the employer. Although the Acts are there, but these trusts are using their own emplo-

yers, their own properties and they are not depositing the money. Nobody has got time to look into it.

Next comes, the problem regarding loans. There is one provision in this Bills which you have added, viz. Clause 2. This is a big joke. The intention is good. The Minister is talking like a progressive, in the matter of contract labour. The strength of contract labour in India is 25 per cent. In the case of 10 per cent, there is no record kept by anybody. In the law, there is no provision to reinstate them. In the law, there is no provision to make them permanent. The Hindustan Lever bosses can appoint all the people as contract labour. So, this provision is going to be there just on paper—I mean about contract labour.

Secondly, about Apprentices. They get Rs. 300/- or Rs. 400/-. They will be sent out after one year. The employer will suitably deduct this amount and keep it in his pocket. If the Government keeps it, I will be happy. But the employers will not part with the receipts. Even though all these provisions are there, since the Apprentices want their bread, all the deductions from them will be swallowed by the employers, who will not part with the receipts. Therefore, this should not be done.

Now, in Clause 14 you are making the punishment stricter, because they have deceived to the extent of Rs. 185 crores. Therefore, it is a very important aspect. Under the existing law, the punishment is Rs. 5,000 fine or six months' jail. Everywhere this word 'or' is there. I am not going into details. But such punishments are not going to work. The man who has cheated the workers of their provident funds amounts should really receive punishment. Forget his contribution. There is a Bradbury Mill in Bombay. The employer there has cheated Rs. 2 crores of workers' money. Still, such people go scot-free. Therefore, please remove all your provisions regarding monetary punishments. The man who has committed this fault must go to jail. Let him go to jail for three months. You send me for three years. I do not feel any agony about it, because I fight for the workers. But about the economic offenders in this

country, and those who are cheating to the extent of Rs. 200 crores,—what is to be done? This law was passed earlier in 1952. There are 1.35 lakh establishments. Have you sent a single employer to jail, for one day in the last 30 years, for committing this fault? This shows the attitude of the Government. You have the National Security Act and other Acts for us. In Bombay, we sent one man for one day to jail. He came out the next day. I remained in the jail for one year. Forget it; I never feel it. But this shows the attitude of the Government. This is a very important point. I want the figures of such economic offenders. I hope the Hon. Minister can give me these figures. You are making amendment in Clause 14. What is the meaning of this fine of Rs. 5,000/-? They have swallowed Rs. 200 crores. And they will never give the fine of Rs. 5,000/-. If a stricter punishment is to be awarded, the Judge must give the reasons for it. All your laws are soft.

All I would like to suggest to you is this. You are going to appoint legal tribunals. It is a good thing. But by the working of all these recovery officers, people who serve notices, make enquiries, and pass them on to the tribunals, who is going to be benefited? It is the employer. Are the poor workers, these *chhota* unions or others going to attend the tribunals? So, by the provision of a tribunal here, and by passing this Bill, you are not going to help the workers. Your intention may be good. That is why I tell you that you may enjoy full power; and I do not mind your using it to some extent. But because you have provided for the tribunals etc., the big business houses will create a lot of legal litigation. They are not going to help the poor workers.

15.58 hrs.

[SHRI N. VENKATARATNAM
in the chair]

Secondly, it is a good thing to say that 75 per cent of the amount should be deposited. But there also, you have given powers to the tribunal to reduce that amount, or make it less. Thirdly, whatever be the amount under dispute, the employer should

pay simple interest. Instead of depositing Rs. 1 crore with you, the employers will create litigation, because the employer will get loan from outside at 20 per cent. Here, he would feel that if the case is decided against him, he will have to pay at less than the bank interest. So, I am suggesting an amendment that $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the rate of interest should be there. Otherwise, through all these legal litigations, your collection will be much less.

You are giving powers, through a provision, to the tribunal or the committee, to reduce the provident fund amounts etc. Please do not start this practice. After the law on sick units was passed, all the healthy units are becoming sick. In Bombay, employers bring certificates. They pay something to some committee, get the certificate and then say: 'I have got a sick certificate. I want concessions in respect of provident fund etc.' The intention was good, when we discussed that Bill here.

16.00 hrs.

Now a sick unit is becoming a Certifying Board of making every unit sick and you are adding sickness here. Definitely, if you are going to give certain concessions, then the sickness is going to increase. If any company is liquidated, the first claim is of the workers. It is good to talk on the platform. There are 3500 companies which are liquidated in this country—about 70-75 from Bombay. Is there any single employee from such companies who got their provident fund? It is very clear that nobody is going to get it. Before a company is declared liquidated, everything is removed from there; nothing is available there. And the liquidation decision comes after 10 years. By that time either the workers go to their native places or die. So, it is becoming an academic discussion. But it is a very important thing.

Here 20 or more workmen are required, but the employer always keeps a register of 19 workmen. When my union was formed, two casual workers were removed and the litigation started. This is a big problem. We can look after the organised workers in the Godrej and Premier. Therefore, I think,

that is not the need of this country. Small industries are coming up and there they are getting Rs. 12 to Rs. 15 per day. For 90 per cent of the workers, they are not giving provident fund slips, forget about the cards; they have not been giving them for the last four years. Therefore, there are such administrative difficulties. If a worker does not get his provident fund slip, then that money will be swallowed by his employer—they know the weakness—or by the accountant or some other clerk. Therefore, there is a lot of provident fund money, but, officially, they must be showing Rs. 185 crores. It is a serious offence. About 10 per cent of the money collected by the Government is not taken by the workers. The Hon. Minister will correct me if I am wrong. The proper claimants are not there. Therefore, there is a lot of dissatisfaction among the workers. I think it is good for the Government to get this money at a simple rate of interest and always save money. So, this is a major contribution by the workmen to the national economy. There are a few thousand crores of rupees of this nature; I do not know; I am not getting this figure. I have tried to get this figure from the Library, but I am not able to get it and the Government is also not giving it. This is the biggest contribution of the workmen to the national economy. The industrialisation is increasing and it is a sure contribution from the workmen to the national economy. It will go into losses. I am proud to mention that this is the biggest contribution from the workers to the national economy. Therefore, the interest of the workers in all these units should be maintained. Therefore I am giving this suggestion that all the units of the Central Government, State Governments, corporations and public sectors must be included. I think the Government is going to gain in that, because the Government is getting money at a cheap rate of interest for national development.

I have got a case in the Bombay High Court. They say that they have collected Rs. 764 crores in eight years, but they have given for pension only Rs 5 crores. So, it is good that Government is getting this money on this account. So, the Government must cover all workmen. If some workers want to contribute voluntarily more than 10 to 55 per cent—I think in some countries it is 33 per cent; if you want, I can give

the names—then at least you keep it income tax free.

This tribunal system and litigation system is not going to help the Government. That is why I request the Government to take all these powers and punish the employers who are making all types of defaults by not using the money properly. Though there is a fine, it is not going to help. According to the Companies Act, if a company diversifies its fund, then there is a fine of Rs. 400; if it swallows Rs. 4 crores, the fine is only Rs 400. There is no criminal prosecution and we are talking is economic offences. Under the Companies Act, last year, 7000 employers were prosecuted and a fine of Rs. 7 lakhs was collected from them for making serious offences for not holding the meetings and diversifying the fund. So, all these economic offences are there. Then the privatisation is going on. Then they are not making the trusts work properly; they are becoming trusts of the employers. In Bombay, it is all right that we can dictate in some places. But when a dispute comes, whatever facilities we get from your office, we get; if there is a lock-out, we get loan; if there is a strike, illegal strike, we get loan. Though you have made a provision, but nobody is going to be prosecuted. For sick units, there should not be any concessions.

For opening a provident fund accounts there should be 20 workers; it should be reduced to 10 workers, because workers of this country always desire that some money should be saved so that it will help them in their old age. For that, the Government is going to gain. I request that the Government may look into this provision. Then about maintenance of the Provident Fund slip. At least the card should be maintained. Immediately after the money is deposited you know that the worker will like to get the slip to see the amount deposited, because the employers are going to cheat. Therefore, there should be such a provision. But there is no provision. I will say, that the worker after working for four years and three years after depositing the money, in a city like Bombay we are getting the slip. What can be said of small small places. There are companies under liquidation and so on.

I thought that though you are making rules they are not going to help the workers. In legal cases I think provision should be made to provide for interest. And the interest should be more. The employers are going to make all sorts of provisions suitable to them and to maintain the provident fund accounts as they want. It is a serious matter. On the contrary the benefits do not reach the workers. I am with the Minister so far as the benefits to the workers are concerned. This is a good measure and on this basis I conclude my speech.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Mr. Soz wants me to support this Bill. Since Mr. Soz's party has joined hands with the Congress, he does not find anything wrong in whatever the Congress party does. Am I correct ?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla) : Is it not a good measure ?

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : I cannot say, lock stock and barrel that I agree. It is not my choice. Anyway, some important observations have been made. But there are some loopholes which you have to plug. If you want to ensure that the benefit which you are giving by this Bill reaches those workers for whom it is meant.

One point which has been made is, that why not cover all sections of workers and employees ? Why only one section ? Why not the State Government employees ? Why not the employees of the Central Government, Railways, Defence P&T etc., why not the public sector employees — why not all these be included ? I cannot re-state that they should all be covered by this Act.

Another point I big to submit is about the exempted section as per the provisions of this Act, according to which only the employers are to manage everything. Small factories have nothing to do with the Provident Fund Commissioner's office. The employers will collect, and they will disburse the money. Who are the employers ? These are the employers who cheat the workers. These are the employers who make wrong declarations. These are the employers with

whom both the Government and the workers, both are tired. I do not think that it is proper to allow such employers to be kept out of the purview of the Provident Fund Commissioner or the Provident Fund office, and to allow them to do whatever they like. I think this will be remembered.

Another point has been mentioned, which I support. Almost all the Provident Fund offices they are made for the dalals and agents and not for the workers. I know the Calcutta office. It is a dangerous den where nothing can be done without making payment to this Devata, that Devata and saying "Ganeshaya AADI Panch Devataya Namaha". I know that nothing can be done without that. So, naturally some steps should be taken. They do not care for anybody. They do not care for even Ministers. They are very powerful people, and they have got strong links with the management.

So, what steps do you propose to take so that the workers, the poor workers, and even the workers of the organised sector, led by ITUC, INTUC, HMS, STU etc. do not suffer ? A provision should be there that if the payments are not made to the Provident Fund there will be some punishment. They should be told that if they do not make the payment they will be punished. At least that tendency shou'd be put an end to; at least it should be curbed.

You have also brought in the question of punishment. One thing is that you have increased the punishment to some extent. Fine is also punishment. You have stated one year punishment or Rs. 5,000/- fine or both. Both these are there. What is the interest ? If a man defalcates say, Rs. 1 lakh, in the market he will earn Rs. 5,000/- in fifteen days. So, naturally it is nothing for him To make defalcation of two lakhs or five lakhs and then to pay Rs. 5,000/-, It is nothing for him. My suggestion is that the punishment should be for three years and Rs. 10,000/- must be the fine.

Our workers or employees go to jail very often, they do strikes, they are arrested and put behind the bar I would like to suggest the punishment should be three

years and the fine must be Rs. 10,000/-. If you can put some of the owners in Jail for six months, or one year or two years and get the work inside the jail, then they will understand what is what and they will be afraid. Naturally, if you want to do this, then the punishment should be increased. This is my submission to you.

Another point which I would like to submit is regarding contribution of ten per cent. There was unanimous resolution of the Standing Labour Committee. After it has been increased from $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to more, what are the factories and establishments where it was more? Now you have made it little diluted. Under the pressure of the management, do not dilute the unanimous resolution of the Standing Labour Committee. My request to you is that the Government should stick to the unanimous resolution of the Standing Labour Committee and do not dilute it under the pressure of the management.

I would like to submit another point. You are thinking of having an Executive Committee to assist the P.F. authorities. It is another addition only. I do not think it will solve the problems. Only ornamental committee is coming up. I suggest that the PF authorities should be restructured; representatives of the workers should be increased and further more, sub-divisional and regional offices should be opened so that it can function properly. By having another committee with the induction of some officers, we do not think it will serve the purpose of the workmen, for whose interest you have brought this Bill.

Much benefits have been said regarding calculation of interest. The employers do not remit, but they defalcate. The workers are definitely paying money every month and it is not reaching the Government coffers. I fail to understand why can't you give them some initiative and certain leverage. If I take a loan from any bank, the interest which I have to pay; if an agricultural farmer gets some loan; if any young unemployed youth gets some loan from the bank, he has to pay on the basis of compound interest. I fail to understand why the same rule does not apply to the workers who remit the money late to the

Government, I hope, the Minister will consider all these points and he will be strong enough to see that punishment is strongly applied to defaulting employees.

With these words, I thank you and I hope our Minister will be kind enough to see that these loopholes are sealed.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): I had suggested to Mr. Choubey that he must straightaway support this Bill because in the Statement of Objects and Reasons I see several good measures in a row. For instance, raising the membership from six to ten of the Central Board of Trustees is a very good idea. Then there is another good idea of raising the contribution from $6\frac{1}{2}$ to $8\frac{1}{3}$ per cent and an enabling provision is also being made for raising the rate of contribution from $8\frac{1}{3}$ to 10 per cent. The Minister needs to be congratulated for that. He is also making a provision for an independent machinery for recovery of the outstanding amount of provident fund and other dues under this Act. I will come to that later. A provision is being made for setting up one or more single-member Tribunals for hearing of appeals. These are some of the very good measures. I feel that this Bill deserves support from all sections. But I would wish that the Minister had taken a little more time to make it comprehensive because he came to this Ministry very recently. I have no doubt that he will care to consider these suggestions and he will incorporate these suggestions wherever necessary or in future he will try to make this measure very comprehensive and it must be in toto a welfare measure.

The Statement of Objects and Reasons says that it covers about 1.66 lakh establishments with about 1.38 crore subscribers under this Act. This is a very big area. But the figures have not been given as to what is the total amount of money that is being collected and what is the total money that is being disbursed. This Bill mentions that there are arrears of subscription amounting to Rs. 1.25 crores. That is a very substantial amount. I am worried about the sick industries because that will also add to arrears further.

On one or two points I would like to draw Minister's attention. One is Appellate Tribunal which is a very laudable idea. Firstly, we must know how many Tribunals will be there and whether the Tribunals will be there and whether the Tribunals will be performing their job very effectively. But on one point I am very much worried and that deserves Minister's pointed attention. It is under clause 7D(3) : "A person shall not be qualified for appointment as the Presiding Officer of a Tribunal unless he is, or has been, or is qualified to be, a Judge of a High Court." Now see clause 7E.

"The Presiding Officer of a Tribunal shall hold office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office or until he attains the age sixty-two years whichever is earlier."

So, whosoever comes to the Tribunal must retire at the age of 62. We have a funny situation in the country. I do not suppose all lawyers and advocates are very eager to become judges because many of them are having very good practice. So, you have a lot of pressure in the country to find very good Judges for the High Courts. And here you want to have people for the Tribunals. You want to have honest people, capable people, men of integrity and efficiency. Where do you get them if they have the term only for five years and if they have to retire at the age of 62 years? Only one category is available to you, that is, the category is of retired judges. So, in the case of retired judges, I would request the Hon. Minister to consider relaxing the age bar till 65. It should not be 62 at all, if you want that very good people should man these Tribunals.

Then Sir, recovery of arrears is a very good clause in the Bill. Clause 88 says that the recovery will be made like this :

- "(a) attachment and sale of the movable or immovable property of the establishment or, as the case may be, the employer;
- (b) arrest of the employer and his detention in prison.
- (c) appointing a receiver for the management of the movable or

immovable properties of the establishment or, as the case may be, the employer."

Now, these are very laudable measures so far as recovery of arrears is concerned. But what about sick units? In fact, very good viable units are falling into the category of sick units and this area is already very vast, very big. So, ultimately it depends upon how the Minister organises the implementation of these provisions, and I hope he will take all measures to implement these provisions properly. Meanwhile, I wish him well and I welcome this Bill.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara) : Sir, of course, this is an improvement on the present statute and to that extent I welcome it. At the same time, I would like to point out to you certain important things. One is the persons who are not covered under the Provident Fund but who are eligible to be covered, and keeping that perspective in view, how the law can be amended or changed in future. This is one question which I would like to put, that is the unorganised workers, large in numbers, are not yet covered. In fact, for and on their behalf the collections are made and the money is dispersed immediately. For example, I will explain about the workers working in the ports or in some other particular area. When there is a contract or an agreement with the employers or the shop owner, or whoever it is, indirect benefits on wages like ESI, Provident Fund, etc. are also taken into consideration and they are collected. But there is no machinery to keep it and disperse it to them with the perspective that this is an amount which is due to them at the time of their retirement or when they cannot work and they go back. So, my submission is that in an overall angle this has to be reviewed and a method by which all these people can be brought under the purview of this Act will have to be evolved.

My second point is that there should be a one-window system at the time of payment, that is, there should not be any difficulty for a worker to get his provident fund when he superannuates. This money which a person has earned is not the money of

the management. This money has nothing to do with the employer. This is a money which the employer, by way of contract or agreement, agree to pay to the worker on the date of his superannuation. This money is being reduced from his day to day wages. Yesterday I was negotiating with the Modern Food Industries on their wage agreement. The total amount offered by the Modern Food Industries to the workers is about Rs. 26 lakhs. Then they said, not only this Rs. 26 lakhs, there is another Rs. 5 lakhs as indirect commitment. I asked what are the indirect commitments and they said the provident fund comes in that. So, when a trade union goes and makes an agreement with any management, provident fund is a part of that agreement. „The employer gets this amount periodically but the workers gets it only at the time of his retirement. So, I was just elucidating an example. Therefore, my submission is that any delay in the payment of provident fund on superannuation cannot be justified. There should be a proper law enforcing machinery to see that the amount is paid to the worker on the date of his superannuation. At the most you may fix up a time limit for putting the onus of proof on the management which is not paying it. For example, somebody wants to keep their money on one pretext or the other. Their arrears are not settled. Their accounts are with the management and they are not settled and therefore, the money is not paid to them. Sir, if a person has retired, within 30 days the amount which he claims is otherwise is not settled, will be given to him. Such a provision should be there, such a directive should be there, such an approach should be there in the law.

Another point is that the present offices and their set up are quite inadequate. With this money, with this fund, now you are expanding even the Board of Directors with more members. You are forming an Executive Committee. But if you look at the way the office is functioning now, the regional offices are functioning now, the Provident Fund Commissioners' Offices functioning now, you will know that they are not only not well-equipped with staff but also they are not decentralised. The Headquarters and other offices should not have any restrictions and the workers should have easy access to those offices and

by doing so malpractices and other kind of difficulties could be avoided so that the workers could go to these offices easily and get their amount without much difficulty because it is their own money and nobody has got any right to keep their money.

Sir, recently I got some information from your Ministry that the amount unclaimed by the workers works out to many crores of rupees. It is a wonder to me, Sir. The money is contributed by the working class and it is their hard earned money. Thousands and lakhs of people who could not claim their money are unaware of this fact. They could not claim their dues because of their being inefficient or absence of knowledge to claim their money or because the necessary forms filled in by them are not proper or they approached very late to claim their dues. Therefore, Sir, in this way thousands of crores of rupees are pending with the authorities non-disbursed. If that is the fact, this was revealed by the Labour Minister earlier while replying to a question in this House, that this much amount has been lying unclaimed, I want to know whom this money belongs to now. What will happen to that money? Therefore, this justifies and fortifies my argument that there should be an effort to give the workers their due share within a stipulated period. Sir, the accumulated arrears lying with the Government is an example for this. There should be proper steps taken to liquidate these arrears. Then, of course, my friends have talked about non-payment of amount and the provisions for punishment are inadequate. Therefore, serious steps and stringent measures will have to be taken against those who do not take action to disburse the workers' dues.

Sir, the Hon. Minister may be aware that in Modi Nagar very near from Delhi, about 30,000 workers are working there and one fine morning something happened there and all the workers had to go. Even now, the provident fund of those workers have not been paid by the employer. That employer has now started some other industry there. He is running the industry. Instead of textile industry, now he has converted it into hotel industry or engineering industry and the poor workers who have come from Kerala and Tamil-Nadu or

elsewhere had to go back to their State, without receiving their dues. In that way, a few thousands of crores of rupees are there with them unclaimed. It goes to whom? Sir, this thing is a frequent phenomenon taking place in many places. Take for instance, Dalmianagar in Bihar. For the last six years, the Dalmias have closed their industries there and the workers' money which is due to them is kept by them. The workers have contributed their share of provident fund but that money is kept by them. Sir, if the Government or any other enforcing machinery could not take any steps in this matter, is it not criminal waste and how such an action be justified? So, Sir, these are my few submissions and I hope that the government will take immediate steps after studying the whole problem throughout the country wherever the industrialist have blocked the workers' money and kept it as unclaimed but utilising the same for their own purpose. With these words, I conclude, thank you.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Sir, first of all, I am very grateful to all the Members for their support to this Bill and naturally this will ultimately help the people for whom this Bill has been brought forward in this House. Sir, I would like to say that this Provident Fund Bill is more of a saving scheme and more of also social security measures for the workers and also in their old age, their families and their dependents can have some amount of money which they have earned and then they can rely on that also. So, we have got quite a number of amendments to this Act which is ultimately going to help the worker and see that this money is also being utilised. I would like to say that when this Act was first initiated, we had six major industries in 1952 and now it is applicable to 273 industries, classes of establishments employing 20 or more persons. By the end of September 1987 the scheme covered about 1.7 lakhs establishments with about 1.41 crores as members, and now the scheme by and large covers almost all the establishments employing 20 or more persons. Sir, the total provident fund collection, as many Members wanted to know, which was done during 1986-87 was about Rs. 1800 crores and the total number of claims settled was about 6.55 lakhs, the amount

paid was about Rs. 566.96 crores, say, about Rs. 567 crores.

Sir, recently under the initiative of the Prime Minister, the family pension benefits under the EPF Act have been recently liberalised and the revised rate of family pensions will range from Rs. 275 to Rs. 750 as against the existing rate of Rs. 140 to Rs. 630. The retirement-cum-withdrawal benefits have also been substantially liberalised, the revised rate of withdrawal will range between Rs. 110 to Rs. 400 for one year membership and Rs. 9000 to Rs. 19,825 for about 40 years' membership. These rates are effective from 1.4.1985.

Sir, about the rate of interest, as many Members have been wanting to know, the rate of interest on provident fund is being increased every year and the rate for the year 1987-88 was 11.5 per cent per annum and for the year 1988-89 we have decided to enhance the rate to 11.8 per cent per annum.

Sir, about the investment of the money, the provident fund is one of the major sources of resource mobilisation for development activities of the Government. According to the existing pattern of investment, 85 per cent of the provident fund contribution is required to be invested in special deposits by the Government and the balance of 15 per cent in the Central/State Government securities and on 31.3.1987 the total provident fund investment that the Government had was about Rs. 15,267 crores and during 1985-86, 5.09 per cent of the total net domestic saving in the country was generated by collection under the Provident Fund Act. So, we have now proposed to raise the rate of provident fund contribution from 6-1/4 per cent of 8.31 per cent and to 8 to 10 per cent on the basic pay and the D.A. This will benefit the employees, at the same time it will also help in mobilising additional resources.

Sir, at present the recovery of provident fund was made through the revenue recovering machine. This arrangement has not been very effective. As on 30.9.87, 28,252 revenue recovering certificates for Rs. 127 crores were pending with the collectors.

In order to extract the recoveries we are now providing for setting up an independent recovering machinery on the lines of the recovering machinery of the Income-Tax Department. The establishments which are at present exempted from the operation of the provident fund scheme have been defaulting in the payment of provident fund dues. As on 30.9.1987 the total amount net transferred to the exempted establishments irrespective of the Board of Trustees was Rs. 102 crores. At present we cannot recover the dues against them as arrears of land revenue. We are now making a suitable provision for the recovery of the dues from the exempted establishments as arrears of land revenue. We are also making a provision for levy on damages not exceeding the arrears on the exempted establishments. For reducing the belated payments, we are also making various penal provisions applicable to the exempted establishments so as to ensure better compliance. I also expect that the officers and the staff of the Provident Fund Organisation will make more concentrated efforts and exhibit a greater sense of discipline and dedication to ensure that members of the Fund get prompt services from the Organisation and mobilise their energies and resources to recover the arrears due. In this connection, I might also mention that the Central Board of Provident Fund has already taken a decision to introduce computer based accounting system for the Provident Fund Organisation in a phased manner. To begin with, it is proposed to computerise the accounting work in Regional Office in Delhi. For this purpose, 14 data entry machines have already been installed and regular data entry work on the machine is in progress.

Some members have raised various queries, and I would like to answer them. Mr. Reddy has said that data is not available on the working of the finances. The annual report which was tabled in both the Houses has all the figures which he has wanted. Many Members have said about Rs. 185 crores which has been due as arrears. Of course, if you look at Rs. 185 crores, it is a big amount. But if you look at the total money received in the country, this is one per cent of the total collection and the situation is not as alarming as it has been made out. Yet provisions are made to

enforce the Act, as you had also mentioned about it. The machinery has been created and penal provisions have been introduced so that, we can enforce the Act and recover money as quickly as possible.

Mr. Reddy has also mentioned that there is no enough incentive for investment. We are giving a fairly high percentage, 11.5 per cent in 1987-88 and 11.8 per cent in 1988-89.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : What about calculation every month ?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I will come to your query.

And the rate of interest is reviewed annually by the Central Board of Trustees and the rate is higher than the rate of inflation normally. He also wanted to know, how many tribunals are going to be set up and will there be some shortage ? We have decided that as many tribunals as necessary will be set up. We would go in for this, so that litigation is reduced and the aim is to give more time to the tribunal for making decision. Specially the tribunals will be dedicated only to provident fund cases and not any other cases. He has also mentioned that there are not enough qualified personnel available to the tribunal because the term is only 5 years. The term will be up to the age of 62 years or 5 year term, whichever is earlier. He will have all India jurisdiction and the qualification has been fixed at the High Court level because the tribunal will be first replacing the jurisdiction of the High Court in respect of this Act. Therefore, it should at least have the status of a High Court.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : The retirement age should be fixed at 65. That could solve your problem.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Any person who is directly recruited to the tribunal from the bar, who is qualified to be a High Court judge, will have only 5 years term. That is the difficulty. He will not retire up to the age of 62, but after the term of 5 years. The wording as it is, is whichever is earlier.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : There is a provision for reappointment. Mr. Sharad Dighe has mentioned, what kind of disincentive provided to the people who go for appeal. The employers will have to deposit 75 per cent and above of the amount before they go in for appeal, which provision was not there before.

As of now, appeals under section 19A against the order of the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner are only between 200 and 300 per year, out of assessments in relation to 1.70 lakh establishments.

So, it is not going to be a big burden on this tribunal. The work will be done quicker. For a single dedicated tribunal, it will be possible to dispose of all and if need be, we have no hesitation to appoint more.

Shri Ram Bahadur Singh had also mentioned about the delay in getting money and many other Members also expressed it. We have taken certain steps. We have started computerisation. We have issued instructions that the amount standing in the balance of account should be paid within 20 days in the case of missing credits. I would like to inform the Members that 51.46 per cent of the total claims were paid within 20 days in 1986-87 and 76 per cent of the total claims were paid in 1987. 56 per cent of the total claim were returned in 1986-87. Only 8 per cent of the total claims remain pending after 1986. The case is not as bad as it is made out.

We have also started the system of hearing public grievances.

The pattern of investment is settled by the Ministry of Finance. We have no Cells.

Shri A. Charles and Dr. Datta Samant had also mentioned that lots of forms had to be filled and people have to go through all sorts of processes. This is not correct. At the time of membership, only one form namely, the nomination form is required to be furnished by the members. At the time of settlement of provident fund accounts, again one form is required to be filled in by the member. On death cases, additional documents are required which is as per the law.

We are also reviewing rules and regulations and other things so that the worker does not get harassed and he must get his money in time. That is one of our aims that we must see that the day he retires, he must get his money. This is my aim and I hope we will very soon do it. Please help us in computerisation.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : What about corruption ?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Many complaints have come up. We are aware of it. We are trying to do everything possible about that. You be rest assured that we will not spare anybody as far as anybody who is indulging in corruption and who is harassing the workers in getting their hard-earned money comes to our notice.

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU (Madras North) : There is difficulty in getting the P. F. money.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : You and Shri A. Charles have asked how many convictions have been made. During 1986-87, the convictions made are 1,569. The number of people who were imprisoned is 856. That means we are trying to catch them. We are not very happy. We will catch more people who are misusing the money.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : Put them in jail at least for one year.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I am not responsible for that. As regards penal interest on arrears, we have proposed penal damages up to 100 per cent of arrears. This will go in a big way.

Separate legislation for amendment of Section 405 of the Indian Penal Code is being made. This is being amended by this Bill because Section 405 deals with criminal breach of trust. Explanation to this Section clearly says that the employer who misuses any employee's contribution is guilty of criminal breach of trust. This will also deter them from misusing the money.

Shri N. V. N. Somu had yesterday said that unclaimed funds should be used for

welfare measures. These funds are kept aside in order to be repaid. For this purpose, newspaper advertisements, notice to the original employees are issued and in general all efforts are made to locate the employees to whom the payments are to be made, and to pay them the unclaimed arrears. Out of Rs. 15,000 crores deposited in the Government through Provident Fund, only Rs. 20 crores is unclaimed. I have got figures and I will give the figures to you later on. Out of the amount of Rs. 20 crores, we have already identified 50 per cent of the claimants after their death. I will give you the figures later.

Dr. Rajhans wanted to know as to why not we invest this in Indira Vikas Patras. Probably, the Member is unaware that all the money relating to Provident Fund has to be invested as per the direction of the Ministry of Finance.

Shri Asutosh Law said that because of the use of Company Act, there is a delay in recovering the dues. I would say that the Company Act has been enacted under the Civil Law. It cannot permit continuation of of the criminal act. As per the scheme of Provident Fund, defaults and arrears are already held as criminal offence under Section 405 of the Indian Penal Code.

Shri Ajoy Biswas wanted to know as to how many people have been put behind bars or convicted regarding default etc I have already given the figures. He has also pointed out that people find a lot of difficulties in getting loan applications. They have to come from Tripura to Guwahati. But, I think the Member was not informed because even till now, a Sub-Regional Office exists in Tripura which could sanction loan and it is sanctioning loan. Recently, one full-fledged Regional Provident Fund Commissioner's Office has been sanctioned and an officer has also been posted in Tripura. He said that even in this amendment, defaults are not being declared criminal offence. This is what he has mentioned. But this is again wrong because defaults are considered a violation of Section 405 of the Indian Penal Code which deals with the criminal breach of trust.

Shri Pandey and Shri Thomas wanted to know about the use of unclaimed funds for

the insurance of the Provident Fund. Unclaimed funds money is due to the individual members and therefore, cannot be used for any purpose other than the benefit of the Members or the claimants.

Sir, Hon. Members would be happy to know—which you probably wanted to know and about which I have mentioned earlier—that the claimants for Rs. 10.58 crores out of the Ra. 20 crores which I mentioned, have been identified through newspaper advertisements last year and the Provident Fund papers are being processed to see that payments are made to the widows or their children. These things were not possible before. But we did everything possible now to see that through the union leaders, through the local officers, through the Police, through the Governmental machinery we must identify those people because big amount is involved. I am happy to say that more than 50 per cent of the claimants to whom the money belongs has been identified and the paper work is on. The Provident Fund officers have done a good job on this. We hope that we will also be able to identify the other people to clear the dues. I would like to say here that it is their hard-earned money and so either the Government or anybody has no right to use their money in any other way.

Shri Tanti had mentioned that regarding labour disputes, Labour Tribunal should be set up under Article 323 B of the Constitutions of India. I would like to inform him that we have taken note of his suggestion and in one of the Bills which is to come, we will be able to do it in that. Further, Shri Tanti was not informed about one particular thing i.e., the Provident Fund Act is not applicable to the workers of the Tea Estates of Assam. In Assam, they are covered under the Assam Tea Plantation Provident Fund and Pension Fund Act, which is administered solely by the State Government.

Shri Harish Rawat and Dr. Datta Samant mentioned that compound interest should be charged from the employers who are defaulting.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : The point is that the workers' money is deposited with

you and it is charged once in a year in January. But, in between, the instalments are deposited. They lose interest for the year. That is very important point.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : What you are telling is they are doing only at the end of the year regarding whatever deposits are given.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : In the Banks and Government Departments it is charged month-wise. But here, the workers are losing a few thousand rupees. This is important and this is what I have suggested. I think the Public Sector Undertakings have also given you this suggestion. That is why I request you to pay attention.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I will see to that matter. You had also mentioned that the Public Sector Undertakings should also follow the same rate of contribution as is done by the Private Sector. This is what you have mentioned. I would like to inform you that the Public Sector Undertakings usually follow the same rate of contribution and it will also pay —

DR. DATTA SAMANT : Are you making any provision in this Law because you are exempting the Governments and the State Governments and Corporations. Then you can correct me; I will be very happy. Are you covering by this Amendment the 21 lakh workers of the public sector ?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : After the notification, you have to see...

DR. DATTA SAMANT : In the Bill you have not mentioned. If you are doing that, we will appreciate.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I cannot change it now. As you know, sometimes the public sector has a better scheme than the Provident Fund and it is never less than the benefit under the Provident Fund scheme. So give them the benefit of doing that; the workers will benefit.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : That is a different aspect. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : You had mentioned that the employers would pay a fine of roughly Rs. 5000 or so and go back scot free with crores of rupees of default. Now, for default the penalty is upto a hundred per cent of the default plus the recovery of the full amount of the default, both recoverable as arrears of land revenue. Simple interest is only on delay in payment but it gets added to the default in payment; the penalty can be levied upto a hundred per cent.

With these words, I would like to conclude. I have received good suggestions and I am happy that most of the Members have contributed to the debate.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : The fine may be removed. Let the punishment be one month's imprisonment, minimum. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : A fine of Rs. 5000/- will serve no purpose... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : It is the person behind who gets the thing implemented. We will make sure that we get it implemented. (*Interruptions*)

Hon. Member Shri Thampan Thomas mentioned about Modi Industries. This is a serious matter which he has brought to our notice ..

DR. G. S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : Publish the names of defaulters in the newspapers once in six months.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I would like to inform him that our office will inquire into the whole thing and if they have defaulted, if the workers' money has been misused, I can assure you, we will take the stringent action against those people, however high or big they may be.

With these words, I would conclude.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY : This is only an enabling provision to enhance the provident fund contribution. I have suggested that this enhanced amount, wherever possible, may be converted into a Pension Fund. Will the Hon. Minister consider this ?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : It is a very good scheme. We will consider that next time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

“That the Bill further to amend the Employees’ Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and the Indian Penal Code, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2 (Amendment of Section I)

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY (Kurnool) :
Sir, I beg to move :
Page 2, line 2,—

for “may” substitute ‘shall’ (13)

Let this be made mandatory. That is why I have proposed that the word ‘may’ be substituted by ‘shall’.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I am not accepting the amendment.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall now put the Amendment No. 13 moved by Shri Ayyapu Reddy, to Clause 2 of the Bill to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 13 was put and negatived

MR. CHAIRMAN : Since there are no amendments to Clauses 3 to 8, I put Clauses 2 to 8 together to the vote of House. The question is :

“That Clauses 2 to 8 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted

Clauses 2 to 8 were added to the Bill

Clause 9 (Amendment of section 6)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now Clause 9.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : I beg to move :

Page 6 —

after line 17, insert—

“(c) after section 6, the following subsection shall be inserted, namely :

“(2) If any workman voluntarily desires to contribute his provident fund upto twenty per cent of his basic pay and dearness allowance and retaining allowance (if any) he can do so without the contribution of employer over ten per cent of provident fund and such additional contribution made by the workman over ten per cent shall be exempted from income—tax.” (2)

SHRI MANIK SANYAL (Jalpaiguri) :
I beg to move :

Page 6,—

for lines 11 to 17, substitute—

“Provided that in its application to any establishment or class of establishments, the Central Government shall by notification in the Official Gazette specify that this section shall be subject to the modification that for the words “eight and one-third per cent.” at both the places where they occur, the words “ten per cent” shall be substituted :” (8)

DR. DATTA SAMANT : I beg to move :

Page 6, line 8,—

after "section" insert—

"and such amount shall be deposited in the provident fund account of the employee and the interest shall be calculated monthly, taking into account the previous deposits, monthly subscriptions and withdrawal, as is done in the case of Government employees." (18)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Datta Samant, please confine yourself to Clause 9 and amendments 2 and 18.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : On Amendment No. 18, I have already talked in this House and the Hon. Minister has been apprised of it. It is a huge amount which the worker is paying throughout the year. Workers deposit, on an average, about Rs. 1,000 in the provident fund office. It is done in three or four instalments in January, in April, in August and in November. But interest is calculated only in the month of January next. This the procedure followed in the Government so far. In banks and other institutions and in other private dealings, whatever balance is there, month-wise interest is charged. With the result, the workers are losing a big quantum of amount every year which is about Rs. 30, Rs. 40 or Rs. 50 and it gets accumulated. It comes to a few thousands at the end of his service, that is, at the time of his retirement. The Public Undertakings Committee has recommended it very strongly. They have mentioned that the workers' provident fund is the only amount on which simple interest is charged. But in all other Government accounts, on the monthly contribution, compound interest is charged. With the result, the workers are the losers. At the time of retirement, he loses Rs. 2000 to Rs. 3,000. I, therefore, appeal to the Hon. Minister to accept my amendment and to see that it is passed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Have you spoken on both the amendments ?

DR. DATTA SAMANT : I have spoken on Amendment Number 18. What is the other amendment ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Did you not speak on both the amendments ?

DR. DATTA SAMANT : Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Manik Sanyal.

SHRI MANIK SANYAL : I beg to move my amendment for the consideration of the House. I will speak in Bengali.

*SHRI MANIK SANYAL : Mr. Chairman Sir, a meeting of this Standing Labour Committee was held on the 22nd and 23rd September, 1987. In that meeting the Government's representatives and the Hon. Minister was also present. In item 5 of the resolution that was unanimously adopted there, it was decided that since it was a Contributory Provident Fund, the contribution of the employers and the employees will be 10 p.c. each. In those establishments where the number of workers was less than 50, the contribution was to be raised from the earlier $6\frac{1}{3}$ p.c. to $8\frac{1}{3}$ p.c. and in all those establishments where more than 50 workers were employed, it was to be raised from $8\frac{1}{3}$ p.c. to 10 p.c. But Sir, in this Amending Bill we find that the Government has tried to by pass the unanimous decision of the Standing Labour Committee. This is because the ultimate decision is being left to the new Executive Committee that is sought to be constituted in this Bill. We have a suspicion that there can be only one reason behind the attempt of the Government to bypass the unanimous decision of the Standings Labour Committee of raising the contribution to 10 p.c. This reason is nothing but pressure of the employers and the coming elections. There they will have to please the management and side by side they will have to please the workers also by saying that we have made a provision of 10 p.c. for you. Here I want to say that if the Government is desirous of benefiting the workers through this welfare measure, then they should make a firm commitment and say that 'we shall make it 10 p.c.' This should have been clearly and unambiguously provided in this amending Bill. The amend-

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

ment we are suggesting is to that effect only. We are demanding that in the proviso to Clause 9 (b) of the Bill at page 6 (lines 10 to 17) the word 'may' should be substituted by the word 'shall'. From now on both the employers and the employees shall contribute 10 p.c. to the Contributory Provident Fund. Then only we will be convinced that the intention of the Government is very clear. This is my amendment Sir. Thank you.

17.00 hrs.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : Sir, I want to speak about my Amendment No. 2. It only says that the following sub-section shall be inserted in Page 6 after line 17.

"(2) If any workman voluntarily desires to contribute his provident fund upto twenty per cent of his basic pay and dearness allowance and retaining allowance (if any) he can do so without the contribution of employer over ten per cent of provident fund and such additional contribution made by the workman over ten per cent shall be exempted from income-tax"

I have said during my speech that many of the workmen usually draw high salaries as per this Government's ceiling that if anybody gets more than 18000 rupees he comes under income tax bracket. Actually the salaried workman are the honest tax payers.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have already spoken. You have already mentioned this point and the Minister also replied.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : This is on my amendment Sir, which is very important. The working class is deprived of this benefit. In the last three years the whole sale and the consumer price index have gone up by 20.6% but the workers' income tax level remained at Rs. 18000. A lot of concessions are given to the private sector—I have no time to mention them—but the salaried workmen are the maximum sufferers because you have kept the same level for three years. Here workers want voluntarily to contribute more towards the PF. I think you want the money also because it is on 1½% without compound interest. It should be allowed.

What I say is if any workman contributes over 10 per cent in his provident fund then he should be given income-tax rebate. In this very House the High Court Judges Remuneration Act was passed and additional house rent and other facilities to the tune of of thousands of rupees were given income-tax free. Therefore, I would like to urge that Government should accept this amendment of mine and it should be applicable to the workers also.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Has the Minister to say anything on this ?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Sir, as far as the point raised by Dr. Datta Samant is concerned I would like to say once full computerisation is done of the accounting system it will be easier for us to calculate the interest every month. Till such time that computerisation is not done I cannot give him an answer but we will consider favourably once full computerisation is done. As far as his second point is concerned it is a good suggestion and, I think, what we will do is that I will convey this feeling of his to the Finance Ministry. If the workers can benefit from my side we will favourably recommend this.

SHRI MANIK SANYAL : In the Standing Labour Committee meeting held on 22nd and 23rd September 1987 decision had been taken unanimously that where less than 50 workers are working the limit should be raised from 6½% to 8½% and where more than 50 workers are working it should be raised from 8½% to 10 per cent. It is your decision and not mine. Why are you objecting ? After inquiry if Government may deem fit by notification in the gazette they should raise it from 8½% to 10 per cent. Why are you not agreeing to this ?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : This particular reference which you are giving surely we can look into this also.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall now put Amendments Nos. 2, 8 and 18 to clause 9 moved by Dr. Datta Samant and Shri Manik Sanyal to the vote of the House.

Amendments Nos 2, 8 and 18 were put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That clause 9 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clause 9 was added to the Bill.

Clause 10 (Amendment of section 7A)

DR. DATTA SAMANT : I beg to move :

Page 7, line 4,—

for "three months"
substitute "one month" (9)

Sir, this amendment is about giving three months time to the employer. If you give a lot of time in between, the employer can misuse it. That's why I have mentioned that it should be only one month. This is a technical amendment and time should not be wasted for depositing the money on which the worker will lose the interest. Therefore, I do not think there is any difficulty in accepting this.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I don't accept the amendment.

17.12 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *In the Chair*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I shall now put amendment No. 9 of the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 9 was put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The questions is :

"That clause 10 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 10 was added to the Bill.

Clause 11 (Insertion of a new section 7B to 7Q Review of orders passed under section 7-A)

DR. DATTA SAMANT : I beg to move :

Page 11, line 14,—

for "twelve per cent."
substitute—

"one and half times the interest charged by any scheduled bank." (3)

Page 11,—

omit lines 18 to 20. (4)

Page 8, line 27,—

for "five years"
substitute "two years" (10)

Page 11,—

omit lines 5 to 7 (11)

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : I beg to move :

Page 7,—

after line 37, insert—

"Provided further that no such review shall be made after the expiry of three years after the passing of the order." (14)

Page 8,—

after line 40, insert—

"Provided that the Tribunal shall not have jurisdiction in respect of establishments situated more than two hundred fifty kilometres from the place of its office :

Provided further that where no notification is issued by the Central Government the district and sessions judge where in the establishment is situated, shall *ipso facto* function as the Appellate Tribunal.”(15)

Page 8, line 46,—

for “High Court”
substitute “District and Sessions Court.”
(16)

Page 11, line 6,—

omit “waive or” (17)

DR. DATTA SAMANT : The amendment No. 11 is for omitting lines 5 to 7. Here the whole problem is who has raised the dispute with the tribunal. It is a good compulsion that he has to deposit 75 per cent money with the Provident Fund Tribunal. That is a good arrangement for the employer. In order to delay the payment, the big bosses are going to create a lot of litigation and the poor workers always suffer. This line initially was very nice. The Hon. Minister has mentioned but subsequently he says that it has been provided that the tribunal may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, reduce the amount to be deposited. Government's hope is like that. You say, that we are for the workers. You just show off. You deposit the 75 per cent disputed amount with the tribunal. This is a good lesson to the employer. Immediately after that clause, you are given powers to the tribunal to reduce the amount or to waive it completely. I want that these lines should be deleted. There can be some compulsion.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Sir, the amendment given by me is :

“Provided further that no such review shall be made after the expiry of three years after the passing of the order.”

Under Clause 11, they have provided that a review can be made on the basis of some discovery of new facts or on account of some mistakes or error apparent on the face of the record. A review certainly can be

made but there should be a period of limitation between which a review has to take place. It cannot be after four years or five years or after the orders have been passed by Provident Fund Commissioner or the concerned authorities. It is a sound principle, not only of jurisprudence but of business management that a period of limitation should be there. Otherwise, there will be no finality to any order. Any order can be subjected to review even after five years or ten years or six years and this will be a limitation for concoction or budging or threatening. Some person or other interpreted by saying that we will review the entire matter. On the basis of the principles of the limitation Act, I have suggested that there should be no review after a period of three years, after the order has become final. This principle has been incorporated in the very same Clause because if you refer to Section 7C, it is stated there as ‘Provided that no order re-determining the amount due from employer shall be passed under this section unless the employer is given a reasonable opportunity of representing his case’. That is a period of five years limitation is placed there. So, on that basis, I am saying that you must not permit any review of an order after the expiry of three years.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : We are satisfied with the present provisions which we have brought and we do not want to add anything further.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I shall now put all the amendments to Clause 11 together to the vote of the House.

Amendments Nos. 3, 4, 10, 11 and 14 to 17 were put and negatived

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That Clause 11 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted

Clause 11 was added to the Bill

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The questions is ;

"That Clause 12 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clause 12 was added to the Bill

Clause 13 (Amendment of section 8 A)

DR. DATTA SAMANT : I beg to move :

Page 11, line 27,—

add at the end—

"and after sub-section (1) the following proviso shall be inserted, namely :

"Provided that it shall be obligatory on the principal employer to collect the provident fund from the contract labourer or apprentice, as the case may be, and issue receipt therefore, failing which he shall be liable to prosecution under section 14." (12)

It is an important thing that the Government is going to introduce the provident fund for the contract labourer which is already there. Twenty-five per cent of the labour of this country is contract labour and there is no provision to make them permanent. If their services are terminated, we cannot make a claim. Tatas and Birlas can appoint hundred per cent labour as contract labour. That is the position in this country. You must realise what is happening in this country. I want that it should be made obligatory on the employer to collect provident fund from the contract labourer or apprentice and issue receipt therefor and keep proper record. Even for ten per cent of the contract labour, the record is not kept. The employer swallows the contribution. The receipt is received by the employee after three years and in the meantime, his services are terminated. He never gets that money. I have seen a number of contract labour accounts in Bombay. You always talk of the socialistic pattern of society. Even ten per cent of the contract labour will not get this provident fund. The Government is now making it compulsory for apprentices also. These people do not get the job of apprentice and even if they get, they are paid Rs. 200 or Rs. 300 per month. There is no guarantee of the job.

He will get the receipt after one year. In the meantime, his services will be terminated and after termination, he is not keen to get that money and he does not get that now.

I know the Government's attitude, they are not going to accept my views. It must be made compulsory for the employers to keep proper records for the deductions they made for the provident fund in respect of contract labour and apprentices, so that even if their services are terminated, they will get the money.

It is a very concrete and healthy suggestions though it is difficult to implement. I hope the Minister will accept it for the sake of the poor labour.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Section 8 already casts the liability on the employer to recover provident fund money in respect of the contract employees. That provision is considered adequate. I do not accept the amendment.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I shall now put amendment to clause 13 moved by Shri Datta Samant to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 12 was put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 13 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 13 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clauses 14 to 17 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 14 to 17 were added to the Bill.
 Clause 18—(Amendment of section 14)

DR. DATTA SAMANT : I beg to move :

Page 16, line 4,—

after "one year" insert—

"but shall not be less than three months" (5)

Page 16, line 30,—

after "one year" insert—

"but shall not be less than three months" (6)

Sir, the Hon. Minister has said that Rs. 185 crores have not been deposited, but that is not the authentic figure. What they have swallowed of the contract labour must be ten times. Nobody keeps the record. If they have twenty workers, they show only eighteen or so. There is no record, no receipts. The employers are committing frauds and not depositing the money. The employers give false accounts to the Provident Fund Commissioner. The workers contribution is collected, but not deposited with the Provident Fund Commissioner. They give false record to the Provident Fund Commissioner and do not deposit the money collected. You are now providing a fine of Rs. 5000 and imprisonment of one year, either or both. Out of the 800 cases which have been prosecuted, none of them has gone to the jail. I am not keen in sending anybody to the jail. But your intention is not to implement this provision of punishment. Therefore, I am saying that in this punishment, at least made some three months compulsory imprisonment. This I think is a compulsory and good provision for those who swallow the money of the workers after collecting from them and those who give false records to the Provident Fund Commissioner's office. The economic offenders must be taught a lesson. I think the Hon. Minister will definitely agree with me. He was sitting by my side, anyhow he is now in the big Party. I do not know what he will say now. But I think for such grievous offence the punish-

ment of three months imprisonment must be there.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I think there is adequate penalty for furnishing false statement or avoiding the payment. It is already there in the sub-Section 1 of the Section 14 and we are quite satisfied with this. As far as the compulsory punishment is concerned, it is for the courts to decide. We cannot take any decision.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, I put amendment No. 5 and 6 moved by Dr. Datta Samant to the vote of the House.

Amendments No. 5 and 6 were put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Since there are no amendments to clause 19 to 21, I put clauses 18 to 21 together to the vote of the House. The question is :

"That clauses 18 to 21 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 18 to 21 were added to the Bill.

Clauses 22 - (Insertion of New Section
 16A Authorising certain employers
 to maintain provident fund
 accounts)

DR. DATTA SAMANT : I beg to move :

"Page 17,—

after line 48, insert—

"(3) Where an establishment is authorised to maintain provident fund account under sub-section (1), it shall be the duty of employer that the workman may get provident fund loans for housing and marriage of his daughter, during lock-out or legal strike on similar conditions as he would have got from Provident Fund Commissioner :

Provided that in the case of any dispute in regard to the payment of

provident fund loans to the workman, the employer shall follow the instructions of Provident Fund Commissioner or otherwise shall be liable to punishment under Section 14." (7)

Sir, it is very important. There are already trusts created by the employer to collect the provident fund amount. In Bombay the big mill owners, like the Morarji Mills and others they run these sort of trusts. Though there is a provision that the provident fund laws should be applicable to them, but the mill owners or the big bosses or the personal Managers operate these accounts and the workers are denied of the loan. They are humiliated. When there is legal strike or lock-outs, we get money from the provident fund commissioner's office. The Government is good enough to have done that. But in these private trusts the employers are not giving the money to them and they are using the trusts as their personal trusts. They are not depositing the money. As per this provision of the Act, Government is introducing that if in any establishment there are more than 100 workers, the employer of that establishment can start the private trust. As per your policy you are doing this privatisation with such type of employers who are notorious. Therefore, through this amendment I would like to suggest that if you are going to create or going to encourage the private trust, then you are selling out your responsibility. But I think you should keep a restriction on these employers who are creating private trust that the workers should get the loan as per the other provisions of the Government. The money should be paid properly in time. And secondly, if there is any strike or legal lock-outs, the worker should enjoy the provisions of the Provident Fund Act. I know the Hon. Minister will say that in the law there is a provision. But my agony is that it is not implemented. I have written 2 or 3 letters last week to you. The widow or the individual worker, whose husband or the father has worked throughout his life in that establishment, keeps on begging from the employer for her whole life. Therefore, what I mentioned was that you make it compulsory on the part of the employer who raises the provident fund trust that he should see that all the provisions should be made applicable to the workers. He must follow the instructions of the Provident Fund Commissioner.

However, here I may point out to the Hon. Minister that the Provident Fund Commissioner in Bombay has written letter to the private trust that they must give the loans. They just throw it in the basket, and the workers go on begging. It is a very serious thing. We discuss a lot of things but a poor widow or a poor individual worker suffers a lot.

Therefore, I am bringing this amendment, i.e. you make it compulsory for the employer to operate or follow the instructions of the Provident Fund Commissioner and if he fails to follow the order of the Provident Fund Commissioner then as per Section 14 the employer shall be liable to punishment. I do not think it is selfish on my part to ask for this. Let me stress here that this is not political criticism. I am sure the Hon. Minister definitely likes my amendment.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Sir, there is already enough provision in the law to deal with this.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will put Amendment No. 7 of Dr. Datta Samant to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 7 was put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Since there are no amendments to Clauses 23 to 27, I will put Clause 22 to 27 together to the vote of the House. The question is :

"That Clauses 22 to 27 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

• Clauses 22 to 27 were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That Clause 1, Enacting Formula and the long title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That the Bill be passed."

SHRI MANIK SANYAL ; Sir, I may be permitted to speak in my mother tongue because I feel that I can express my feelings and views in a more comprehensive manner in my own language.

[*Translation*]

*Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, we are discussing this Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Bill for a long time. Were I will like to remind that since the time our country became independent, a large number of legislation has been enacted for the benefit of the workers. But if we examine closely and impartially we will find that this plethora of Laws has failed to achieve the desired results and the condition of the workers has actually deteriorated day by day. A large number of Acts has been passed. In no other country of the world so many Labour Laws have been passed. But unfortunately there are many loopholes in our Laws and taking advantage of those loopholes, the employers are getting away scot free. The intention of the Hon. Minister behind this present Bill is surely to plug such loopholes. Effort is being made to plug the loopholes. But if we look closely what will we find? Many things have been said about the provident fund. A figure of Rs. 185 crores has also been mentioned as arrears. But if we go in depth we will find that this is not a correct figure. The employers have misappropriated a much larger amount than that. Our Government does not possess the correct account. This matter is very painful for the workers. Dissatisfaction is growing and crystalising in such a fashion that the workers are saying that they no longer want to be a member

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

or contributor to the Provident Fund. Our experience is that after the death of a subscriber his nominee has to wait for years before the claim is settled. Many Hon. Members have mentioned about it. Here I will mention that Ashutosh Babu has rightly stated that under the Companies Act we cannot drag any Managing Director or owner to the court for default. Only the paid managers or principal officers come to the court. They are paid employees. They come to the court and may pay a fine of some rupees and go away. Sir, the Supreme Court has issued a stricture in this connection. Perhaps in 1985 or 1986, I cannot recall exactly, the Supreme Court issued a stricture that the judges do not view the breach of Labour Laws as a cognizable offence, and impose a fine of only 200, 300 or 500 rupees on the defaulters. Even a fine of 5000 rupees would be very light. If a Company defalcates one crore of rupees and invests the same in its business, it will earn a profit of 1 lakh or 2 lakh rupees. In such situation the owner or employer will gladly pay a fine of 5000 rupees. Many other things have been said in this Bill. An executive Committee is sought to be constituted under this Bill. I do not think that this executive committee will serve any purpose. I want to suggest that instead of constituting the executive committee, the Provident Fund Trustee Board may be given more powers and it may be formed in a more democratic way. If this is done, then it will perhaps be able to produce better results and give more benefit to the workers. Here I will like to raise another point for consideration. As already stated by my colleague Dr. Datta Samant, besides the bill should provide for compulsory imprisonment of the owner of an establishment if he is a defaulter. But the Bill provides for either imprisonment or fine. Because of this provision of 'or', the owner is never sent to jail. Unless we are able to send the employers to jail for default, the purpose of this Bill will never be achieved. I do not want to make a long speech. I will only request you to reconsider this Bill in consultation with all the Central Trade Unions. The other side has a vast majority and I know that this Bill will be easily passed by them. Still I will request them to hold consultation with all the major trade unions and reconsider the same so that the defaulting employers may not

be able to escape anyhow. This is my request to the Hon. Minister. With that conclude.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): It is for this reason that the Bills of this kind were brought. He has mentioned some problems which are being faced. We are satisfied with that. So, we would be able to help the worker in removing all those difficulties which have been faced by him.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is :

“That the Bill be passed.”
The motion was adopted.

— — —

17.35 hrs

STATEMENT RE : EXPLOSION IN
JEEVAN BHARTI BUILDING,
NEW DELHI

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Chidambaram.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, at about 12.00 noon, there was an incident of Bomb explosion in which some persons were killed and some were

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No. Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): The Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs informed me that the Hon. Members desired to know the facts about an incident which took place in Delhi this afternoon. We have gathered the facts and I wish to place the facts.

**Not recorded.

These are the facts regarding the incident of explosion in Delhi earlier today, as received from the Delhi Administration.

At about 12.10 hours today (10.5.88) a bomb exploded in the Reception area of the City Bank located in the new LIC building called “Jeevan Bharti” near Regal cinema in the Connaught Place. City Bank is an American Bank. The explosion caused considerable damage to the bank premises. One person whose identity has been determined is :

—Satish Chaudhary, resident of NOIDA died in the explosion. Fourteen others were injured and one of them is in a critical state. Out of these fourteen persons, eight have been discharged. As regards the in-patients, five are in Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital and one in Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Hospital. Four of the injured persons were employees of the Bank and others were outsiders.

The case has been handed over to the Crime Branch of the Delhi Police for investigation. The Bomb Disposal Squad and Forensic Experts are examining the scene of occurrence.

All the injured are Indian nationals and the identity of all of them except one person who is unconscious and in a serious condition, has been established.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please... order. The Minister has made a statement. That is all. Now next item.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He has given his statement. That is all. Now Mr. Chidambaram, you may move, for consideration, the next Bill.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I cannot understand this. A bomb has exploded. One man has been killed. (Interruptions)

SHRI MANIK SANYAL : Our lives are at stake.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Your life is not at stake. Don't get excited. Your life is not at stake. A bomb has exploded. Bombs are exploded elsewhere also. Just because it has exploded in Delhi, your life is not at stake. You are unnecessarily exaggerating. Your life is not at stake. *(Interruptions)*

17.41 hrs.

SPECIAL PROTECTION
GROUP BILL

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now we take up next item Mr. P. Chidambaram.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : I beg to move.*

"That the Bill to provide for the constitution and regulation of an armed force of the Union for providing proximate security to the Prime Minister of India and the members of his immediate family and for matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

Sir, during the last few years, incidence of terrorist violence in the country has been on the increase, the aim of the terrorists being to destabilise the democratically elected government by resorting to selective killing of prominent members of the public including those in the Government. Following the assassination of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, a committee was appointed to go into various aspects of the assassination and it suggested the setting up of a single agency to devote itself to the exclusive task of looking after and ensuring the security of the

Prime Minister. In pursuance of the above, the Government on April 1, 1985 constituted the Special Protection Group, a specialised force consisting of well trained motivated professionals to provide proximate security to the Prime Minister and to the members of his immediate family both in the country as well as abroad.

The Group was formed to provide proximate security which includes protection provided from close quarters to the person of Prime Minister in static and mobile locations as well as in an aircraft. A unit of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), called the Special Duty Group (SDG) is also attached to the Special Protection Group for doing outer cordon duties in static locations for Prime Minister in Delhi; this unit is a uniformed contingent which is placed under the operational control and direction of the Director of the Group.

On the operational side, SPG has a strength of about 1400 officers who are handpicked from various Central Police Organisations and State Governments on the basis of their special inclination and physical and mental agility. In discharge of its duties and responsibilities, the Group carries out advance security liaison at places to be visited by the Prime Minister and for this purpose, it is equipped with a technical wing have a wide range of technical equipment and gadgets.

The purpose of the Special Protection Group Bill, 1988 is to have a self-contained statute for regulating matters concerning this force as well as to provide the essential legal status to its functioning. The Bill provides for the constitution of the Group and for deeming the existing Special Protection Group as the force constituted thereunder. It provides for the terms and conditions of service of the members of the force and for its control and direction. It has provisions restricting the application of some of the fundamental rights to the members of the force insofar as this is necessary for the maintenance of discipline. Keeping in view the exclusive task entrusted to this force, the Bill makes it obligatory on the part of Ministries and Departments of Central Government and State Governments and the

Union Territories, Indian Missions abroad and local or other authorities, civil or military, to act in aid of the Group.

I commend the Bill to the House for its consideration.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That the Bill to provide for the constitution and regulation of an armed force of the Union for providing proximate security to the Prime Minister of India and the members of his immediate family and for matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

Now Shri V. Sobhanadreeswara Rao.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, just now, the Hon. Minister of State has explained the reasons for bringing this Bill. I will not repeat what he has said and what has been contained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons that is attached to this Bill. I do not object to this Bill in spirit. I appreciate the special circumstances in which this Bill is brought before this House. But we feel sorry about the necessity to bring forward such a Bill in this House, in our country, which is the largest democratic country in the entire world. In fact, our country is the land of Buddha; it is the land of Mahatma Gandhi who had shown a path of non-violence to the entire world. But, unfortunately, today, the circumstances have undergone a sea change. Just now the Hon. Minister has quoted a particular incident that occurred today in Delhi, the Capital City. Every day, we are hearing so many things and this House has discussed so many times violence that is being unleashed by some elements in some parts of our country.

It is really a pathetic scene to find, to observe the Prime Minister of this country speaking from the ramparts of the Red Fort on the Independence Day in a bullet-proof enclosure. Not only there, at several other places, wherever he went to address some election meetings, there also he had to take the assistance of the bullet-proof enclosure. It is really a very pitiable picture for the people of this country that the Prime Minister should face such a security risk. We are

one and also share the feelings of the members of the Treasury Benches. I do admit that the present circumstances are not the same as they were in the days of Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of this country. He was loved by one and all. Even his opponents in the opposition parties, the leaders who differed with his policies held him in the highest esteem; they were having a lot of reverence for him. Whenever he used to go to the masses for participating in the meetings, in any government programmes or election meetings, wherever he went, he used to mingle with the people : Then there was some security arrangement even in those days, but there were security people in plain clothes. It was the people who were the real guards to him. It was because of the affection and dedication to that man, nobody could dare to do any harm to that great man. Unfortunately, the situation has changed subsequently, especially from the time of the previous Prime Minister.

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA (Ahmedabad) : Are you advocating that we should give a red carpet treatment to terrorists ?

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Why should you put your words into my mouth ? I am sorry. You have not understood it at all. I am supporting the Bill. Partly due to the style of functioning of the previous Prime Minister, some circumstances had occurred when during the introduction of emergency in this country fundamental rights were taken away. (Interruption) Not terrorists. I am speaking on the Bill for giving protection to the Prime Minister of this country; I am not speaking about terrorists. You should certainly appreciate it. During that Emergency, unfortunately, the Fundamental Rights of the people were taken away. I will not go into the details. But even the Supreme Court had said that as long as such an Emergency was there, 'the Court cannot assure the citizen of Fundamental Rights'.

And so, the Press censorship was there. Even in the British days some of those provisions were not there. But during the Emergency days due to Press censorship

people in some parts of the country did not know what was happening in Delhi. People in some parts of the country did not know what was going on in some other parts of the country. And because of some such circumstances, due to the Government's policy decisions, and later due to the Operation Blue Star at the Golden Temple the situation had taken a bad turn and in fact, if strong action had been taken much earlier, I think it would have had a different impact on the State of Punjab and upon the minds of the people of Punjab.

I will not go into the details. But what I want to impress upon the House is that certain decisions, certain actions of the previous Government have resulted in a very sorry state of affairs, whereby the life of the Prime Minister of this country was endangered. And ultimately this country really lost a great leader, Mrs. Indira Gandhi. Her own security people taking her life! That is the biggest tragedy. Never before had it happened like that. May be, the President of the United States of America, John Kennedy might have succumbed to the bullets of some fellow. And even our own Father of the Nation, he was killed by one fanatic. But the Prime Minister's security guards killing the Prime Minister! That is really unthinkable. And, though the present Prime Minister is really in no way connected with all these developments, but unfortunately some misguided elements are trying to cause harm to him.

And on the 2nd October, 1985 when he and the President of India went to Rajghat to pay homage to the Father of the Nation, we know what happened then. Again on 29th July, 1987 in Sri Lanka while he was taking the Guard of Honour, there again one attempt was made on his life. This country really felt so sad and was astonished. The irony is the Hon. Minister stated that this Special Protection Group was formed in April 1985 itself!

On the 2nd October, 1986, really it was only a miracle that the Prime Minister and the President survived the bullets of the home-made pistol of Karamjeet Singh. He remained there for the whole night. He was sitting on a canopy under the cover of

a creeper, in spite of the Special Protection Group and in spite of the National Security Guards and several other forces which were expected to take care of everything, every aspect, including the movement of the Prime Minister going along a particular route. Somehow, they failed. If really something had happened on that day, then the consequences would be beyond our comprehension. What I impress upon the Government is, let not this type of lapses recur in future and let adequate precautions be taken so that this type of defects do not repeat in safeguarding the life of the Prime Minister of this country.

Sir, I would like to say one word. If we analyse, why Karamjeet Singh has done this. Our information is that he admitted that he was taking vengeance for the death of one of his relatives, who was killed in 1984 riots in Delhi. More than 2,200 people were killed. This was the Government report. There may be many more people who might have lost their lives in those riots, I believe *(Interruptions)*

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA (Ahmedabad) : It is *sub judice*.

The Supreme Court is hearing the appeal *(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER : High Court.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISHRA : (Tamiluk) : Not a single person is arrested so far .. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If at all it is *sub judice*, it would not go on record.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : I have not said anything which is *sub judice* *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If at all there is any *sub judice* matter, it would not go on record.

(Interruptions)

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA (Ahmedabad) : He is appreciating the evidence here. It is the job of the Supreme Court. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : My point is, he was hurt because of the death of his relative in Delhi. Suppose, if he actually had some collusion with terrorists, who are having very very sophisticated arms, even our Armed forces are not having it....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Try to conclude.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Sir, I have just started it. I want some more time.

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : Only two minutes are left. Let him take it.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I do not think he will finish within two minutes. His demand is that he requires some more time.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Sir, what I want to impress upon this is, on that fateful day, October 2, 1986, if Karamjeet Singh was having a very powerful weapon, then what would have been the fate of this country. This is what I am telling. Since he was having a country-made pistol, which was not very powerful, our President and Prime Minister survived. In spite of the first shot, the Army people, the Special Protection Group people, NSG people and Commanded forces were there and everybody heard it, but they did not prevent the Prime Minister from going further, and instead, he still proceeded, and again there was shot. It was really a miracle that they survived. My only point is that this type of lapses should not occur in future. I hope this type of situation will not continue for ever.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You please continue tomorrow.

Now, Shri Narayan Dutt Tiwari will make a statement.

18.00 hrs.

STATEMENT RE : DECISION OF THE GOVERNMENT TO PAY AN INSTALLMENT OF DEARNESS ALLOWANCE TO CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : Sir, on the basis of the recommendations of the Fourth Central Pay Commission, as accepted by the Government for Group 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' of Central Government employees, dearness allowance at the revised rates has become due for consideration with effect from 1.1.1988, on the basis of percentage increase in whole numbers in the twelve monthly average of the All India Consumer Price Index Numbers for Industrial Workers (General) (Base 1060=100) for the period ending 31.12.1987 over the index average of 608, the base figure to which the revised pay scales are pegged. The twelve monthly average Consumer Price Index for the period ending 31.12.1987 is 719.25 which works out to an increase of 18.29 per cent over 608. Employees drawing basic pay upto Rs. 3500/- are to be allowed 100 per cent neutralisation and those drawing basic pay between Rs. 3501/- and Rs. 6000/- 75 per cent and those drawing basic pay above Rs. 6000/- 65 per cent and are, therefore entitled to the revised D.A. of 18 per cent, 13 per cent and 11 per cent of basic pay respectively with effect from 1.1.1988 as against 13 per cent, 9 per cent and 8 per cent of basic pay respectively from 1.7.1987.

Government have decided to pay the instalment of dearness allowance due to Groups 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' employees from 1.1.1988 in cash. Orders in this

behalf will be issued by the Ministry of Finance.

The additional annual cost of this instalment of D.A. payable to all Central Government employees with effect from 1.1.1988 is estimated at Rs. 354 crores. The total expenditure on this account in the current financial year will be Rs. 413 crores because payment on account of January to March will be made in 1988.89.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House is adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11.00 A.M.

18.02 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till eleven of the clock on Wednesday, May 11, 1988/ Vaisakha 21, 1910 (Saka)